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WEEKLY PEOPLE

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TRUMPET BLASTS

PEALING THE ONWARD MARCH OF LABOR.

Goldfield is just now a stage on which is enacted a play. The name of the play is "The Brotherhood of Capital and the A. F. of L.," or "The Meekness of Capital." Federal troops have been sent to the camp to sweep the streets and highways, so that the "heroes" whom the A. F. of L. herds, may come in, accept lower wages, and receive even that reduction in counterfeit money. Can there be any stronger evidence of Capital's brotherhood, or meekness?

From reliable sources a new flashlight is thrown across the anxiety of the Goldfield mine owners to trample upon the I. W. W. miners. The mine owners were about to be exposed for wild-cat frauds. Federal authorities have been on the field investigating. The rumpus now raised by the mine owners and their mine-owning Gov. Sparks is intended to raise dust with the aid of which the double criminals—wild cat miners and issuers of private money—can escape. Is it at all surprising that these gentlemen should recommend and incite assassination, as their "Goldfield Gossip" does?

Things are taking their logical course in Goldfield. When wrongdoers cannot meet the just reasoning of their opponents, they proceed to raise clouds of slander against them. So now in Goldfield. The mine owners' attempt to violate the Constitution by issuing "legal tender" is to be beclouded by the slanderous reports of "finds" by detectives of "stacks of rifles" concealed by the miners near Goldfield.

There is a greater mine for the Goldfield mine owners than the mines of Goldfield—the Bowery stage for tragedians. Nothing can be more melodramatic than the poise of the selfsame gold miners as they "pledge their sacred honor and their fortunes" to the A. F. of L. scabs, whom they are importing, to protect their God-given right to labor. That there is a decided Montezuma Club flavor of whiskey in the pledge does not place the Goldfield mine owners at a disadvantage with the Bowery tragedians. The latter also have strong flavors of whiskey concealed about their persons.

It is impossible for everybody to be posted on full details of current events. Everybody, however, can seize certain leading facts, and from them draw conclusions that are as correct as if he were posted on details. Such a set of leading facts the Goldfield situation is now offering. Federal troops are in the camp to smooth the way for A. F. of L. scabs to take the places of the I. W. W. miners. Is it imaginable that Federal troops would ever be enlisted to help the I. W. W.? The Goldfield situation is a summary of the thousand and one details that spell—the A. F. of L. is a bosses' organization, the I. W. W. is a bona fide organization of and for the Working Class.

The news that the Russian Government has issued a decree of death against the Editor of an anti-Czar paper in this city is not surprising. Nor is it surprising that the "executioners" are said to be on the way to New York to carry out orders. Assassination cannot be boldly preached in one part of this country as is done by the mine owners of Goldfield, without inviting assassins into other parts of the land. The decadence of Empires invites the barbarians. Decaying capitalism attracts the carrion crows of the "Paddy" Mullaneys in the West, and the Black Hundred agents of the Czar from the East.

For over a year Roosevelt has been working on a foundation for the Promotion of Industrial Peace, having devoted the cash of the Nobel peace prize to the project. Evidently the ordering of Federal troops to Goldfield is the first active step in the Foundation. Point is added to the evidence by the fact that Gompers, whose envoys are negotiating to fill the striking miners' places under the bayonets of these very Federal troops, is with Roosevelt on the list of Founders.

Two members of the Newark Workingmen's Circle (Arbeiter Ring) were ejected last week from the charity masque ball of a Newark hospital, for including in their costumes announcements of a coming Socialist ball. The hospital authorities were correctly keen-scented. The establishment of Socialism would once for all put an end to all necessity for "charity," and would substitute therefor a secure and sufficient livelihood to every individual.

It is good to make a virtue of necessity. Commenting on the flood of emigration due to panic lay-offs, the N. Y. Times says: "If modern conditions of travel did not make possible this mobilization of surplus labor, it would have to be maintained here, at the cost of wages, conflicts, and disturbances of the peace." What The Times would like to have said was: "Did not modern conditions of travel make possible this escape of surplus labor, it could be profitably used here, cutting heavier and ever heavier into the established wage standards."

The collection of judges, ministers, politicians, press agents and professors, who are trying to enforce "religion" in this city by law, seem to have forgotten that but yesterday their argument against Socialism was that "you can't make people good by legislation." If these gentlemen would but adopt the Socialist method of first furnishing the material means for goodness and then let goodness take care of itself, they would first see to it that the workers preserve the full social share of the product of their labor, then they will have pleasant homes and surroundings to stay in; then they would not feel driven to seek relaxation in saloons;—but then the aforenamed judges, ministers, politicians, press agents and professors would have to stop plundering the working class—an unimaginable thing.

The hard and overworked girls of the Stern establishment may now have some joy of their toil. Miss Irma, a daughter of their employer, became last night Baroness de Grafenried, having married Baron Leo de Grafenried. There is always some comfort in knowing where your money is gone to. If one casts up his account and finds a huge amount unaccounted for he is annoyed. When he discovers in what he spent it, no matter in what, he feels reassured. The employes of Mr. Louis Stern now have the satisfaction of knowing exactly what has become of the wealth they produced and did not get. It has been Baron-de-Grafenrieded.

So now the secret is out of Cortelyou's $100,000,000 issue of fiat money. He, the successful squeezer of campaign funds from corporations, finding his path now blocked from that direction by the recent revelations made through the investigation of Insurance Companies, and having a Presidential boomlet of his own to nurse, raised the $100,000,000 virtually in his own behalf.

The Republican leader in the Senate, Aldrich, of Rhode Island, is "throwing up trenches" to protect the invasion of Nevada by Federal troops to uphold PRIVATE MONEY issued by the mine owners. Senator Culberson had introduced a resolution looking to the rapping of Cortelyou over the knuckles for ordering the issue of $100,000,000 fiat money. Aldrich sidetracks Culberson's resolutions. If the Federal Administration were to be condemned for itself issuing fiat money, how could it be upheld for sending troops to Nevada to protect and enforce the fiat money issued by private concerns?

President Clowry of the Western Union Telegraph Company announces with indignation to the indignant Directors that the recent strikers had aimed at nothing short of running the Company and ousting head officials. That certainly is "the limit" on the part of striking workers! Where will striking workers stop? Can any greater audacity be imagined, and should not the quietus be promtly put upon such proletarian impudence? —Nevertheless, there are those who remember a certain incident in history when James I, in a fit of rage similar to that of Clowry, tore out of the minutes of the House of Commons a certain page recording certain pretensions of the Commoners. And history goes on to tell that neither the indignation of James I, nor the tearing out of that leaf, nor the approval of his action by the court beneficiaries (read Directors of the Crown Stock Company) prevented the Commoners' ultimate triumph, and the cutting off of the head of James's son to-boot, to seal the triumph of the impudent strikers.

AN OPEN LETTER

To the Congress of the United States.
Gentlemen:—

The Constitution of the United States is an empowering act.

By that act the Federal Government, on the one hand, has no powers other than the powers expressly conferred to it, and, on the other, the powers conferred upon the Federal Government are expressly denied to all other individuals, municipal, county or State organizations in the land.

The power to issue money is a power vested by the Constitution in Congress. It is, therefore, a power expressly forbidden to all others, be they private or public bodies. The laws made and provided on the subject are ample and explicit. It is the duty of the Federal Government to uphold these laws and enforce them.

The Constitution and the laws are being violated in Goldfield. The mine owners have issued "scrip." Congress only can issue "legal tender," or decree what shall be "legal tender." The mine owners of Goldfield have decreed "legal tender" attributes to the "scrip" they issued. They demand that the same be accepted by their employes in payment of their wages, in payment of the debts due to the latter by the former.

Even if the Goldfield events went no further, there would be cause to set in motion the legal machinery of the land and stop this crime, and punish the criminals. False coiners and counterfeiters are arrested; much money is spent in keeping up an alert body of secret service men to track down such malefactors, and bring them to the bar, on the way to the penitentiary. The Goldfield mine owners' scrip is COUNTERFEIT MONEY, to all intents and purposes.

But the Goldfield events go further.

Not satisfied with trampling under foot the Constitution and the laws of the land, the Goldfield mine owners have invoked, and, to the eternal disgrace of the Executive, have received his aid in their nefarious attempt. Federal troops have been orderd to and are now in possession of Goldfield.

Gentlemen, it is Anarchy that now rules the roost in Goldfield.

The facts are not questioned. They are unquestionable. The pretences of "possible' disorder on the part of the miners are too transparent. The inspired reports about "thefts," "murders," and "finds" of concealed weapons near the camps, are even fishier than such reports usually are, their usual object being to attune the public mind to the expectation of acts of violence on the part of capitalist employers. The real facts had come out before. They were admitted. It was an unguarded admission, true enough. It is upon just such slips by malefactors that counterfeiters are usualy detected and brought down. The real fact in the case is the refusal of the miners to accept as "legal tender" the spawn of the mine-owning counterfeiters, their refusal to countenance the usurpation of Congressional powers by private, irresponsible, profits-hunting capitalist concerns. Federal troops are now in Goldfield to overawe the miners in the interest of the lawless mine owners.

Gentlemen—the miners of Goldfield once more are on the breach for Civilization. For over a year the camp has been the field of attempted anarchy by the gold mine owners. Again the facts are unquestioned and unquestionable. A murderous, unprovoked attempt was made in broad daylight only recently upon Vincent St. John, the sober and intrepid leader of the miners in that camp. His would-be assassin, "Paddy" Mullaney, now walks the streets of Goldfield under a paltry $2,000 bail furnished by the very element that now invoked and received the support of Federal troops in their usurpation of Congressional powers. Valuable to the country's safety as has been the stand taken by the Goldfield mining proletariat before now, their stand now is infinitely more vital. The path to Progress lies through order. There is hardly a principle more vital to order than the principle underlying the Constitutional provisions vesting Congress only with the power to establish a "legal tender." Under a social system such as the one now prevailing, the Capitalist System of individual production of wealth—under this system the soundness of money is the cornerstone of whatever order the sufficiently and inherently disorderly Capitalist System can afford. Allow that cornerstone to be shaken—allow the medium of exchange to be polluted, as the Goldfield mine owners are attempting to do—and all the Federal troops now in blue, or later to be stuck into uniform, could not prevent the country from being turned into the howling wilderness of official and private riot that Russia now is.

Gentlemen—rightly or wrongly, the Federal Executive has been charged with bringing about the present distressful industrial or financial panic. Even indiscretion is a serious offense on the part of the Chief Magistrate of the Nation. The right of free speech can not be withheld from the President. He could hardly be disciplined for indulging in the delight of hearing himself talk. This other, however, is a horse of different color. The President, by ordering Federal troops to Goldfield, has violated his oath of office. It is not order the "troops are sent to preserve"; they are sent to Goldfield to "introduce the disorder" of PRIVATE MONEY; they are sent to start arolling a ball that, considering the present conditions the country is traversing, is well calculated to turn into the blackest social thunder cloud that ever gathered and burst over this Nation's head.

Gentlemen—THEODORE ROOSEVELT SHOULD BE IMPEACHED. The incredible has come about. An issue has arisen, in which Labor and intelligent Capital, Capitalists (if intelligent) and Socialists alike have a common cause—THE CAUSE OF AVERTING SOCIAL CALAMITY. That cause has arisen through the latest act of the President, whom even a Yale College professor designated as a man of a naturally "lawless mind." The President's action in responding with Federal troops to the cry of the Goldfield counterfeiters for help against the miners who are planted upon an essential principle of order—that action is banditism. Its perpetrator must be impeached.

Gentlemen—grave issues are presenting themselves for solution to our generation. Not chaos but order is the handmaid for the intelligent solution of social problems. Every day you allow to go by without ordering the recall of the troops from Goldfield, every day you allow to go by without causing the counterfeiting usurpers to remain unwhipped of the law, every day you allow to go by without introducing impeachment procedures against the witless anarchist in the White House—every such day not only renders you accomplices in the social crime of Goldfield, but would go far to justify the belief that the Capitalist System is so decrepit that it lacks even the wisdom to uphold that essential law of its own existence—SOUND MONEY.

—EDITOR THE PEOPLE.

GOVERNOR SPARKS

WHAT IS BACK OF HIS REQUEST FOR FEDERAL TROOPS.

His Backers, the Mining Promoters, in Trouble with Post Office Authorities, on Account of Their Wholesale Swindling operations—"Cow Puncher" Governor Hopes to Create Trouble with the Miners, and Thus, in the Confusion, Assist His Friends in Escaping.

Spokane, Wash., December 8.—Practically all the lumber camps of Northern Idaho have shut down since the panic. Thousands of men are out of work. The city council of Spokane is discussing the establishment of soup houses. Men carrying their blankets are tramping along all lines of the railway in bunches of four, six, eight, and sometimes more. Men are offering to work for one dollar a day where two months ago they got $4 a day for the same work. The cost of living is rapidly separating the workers from their savings. Many are going east; some to the Mississippi Valley States to shuck corn, while hundreds of Europeans are booking for transatlantic ports.

Inasmuch as Governor John Sparks of Nevada has appealed to President Roosevelt for Federal troops, which have been sent to Goldfield, it is timely to examine this whilom cattle rancher, who is now occupying the exalted position of Governor of a State whose whole population was but 42,335 in 1900. The population of the whole State is much less than that of many third class cities in the East. The area of Nevada is 110,679 square miles. And when it is remembered that to become Czar over this vast domain there is a much smaller population to deal with than in a single section of many of the first class cities of the East it is reason to give one occasion to pause.

In an article published in The People two months ago relating to Diamondfield Jack Davis John Sparks was showed up as only an ambitious cow puncher who had risen so high in his line of industry in 1896-1897 as to employ other cow punchers to ride the "dead line" in south Idaho and to shoot sheep herders at $40 per month.

Davis, an employe of the Sparks-Harrel Cattle Co. on the "dead line," was convicted of murder and sentenced to be hanged, yet the wealth of Sparks saved the life of Davis, who, since then, has become a Goldfield capitalist and at one time unable to express his financial standing unless he used at least six ciphers. Yes, under the regime of Governor John Sparks, which began in 1899, millionaires have been made in Nevada as a breath is made. James H. Hawley, the notorious lawyer of Idaho, a man of much "native ability," but not a profound student of anything—the lawyer who worked out the plan of organization for the Western Federation of Miners in 1892-93; James Hawley who was leading counsel in the Haywood prosecution, and who has for several years been prosecuting members of the W. F. of M., was the leading lawyer in the defense of Davis. He ought to know what he is talking about. Hawley told me that the Davis case cost Sparks a fortune. Hawley stated to me that he knew of $40,000 that John Sparks spent in order to extricate Diamondfield Jack Davis from the clutches of the law.

By the time that Davis was pardoned by the governor of Idaho Sparks had achieved the distinction of becoming governor of Nevada, which state at that time, I must reiterate, had a population of only about 40,000. Enough as to John Sparks as the cow puncher governor. No wonder that his affinity, the Rough Rider President, hastily complies with Sparks' request for National troops.

There is more to be known about Governor Sparks, there is more to be known about the wild cat conditions in the mining business of Nevada than has ever been published. Under the regime of Sparks, a system of fraud in the business of promoting wild cat mines has flourished in Nevada that will stagger the world if it ever comes to the knowledge of the people.

Governor Sparks' play for troops is but an excuse to divert attention from the stench that is about to arise from some probing going on in the West. So gross have become the promoters of wild cat mining companies that the U. S. postal officials have been compelled to send into the Goldfield district special U. S. mining engineers to survey the holdings of alleged companies.

Things have to be pretty bad when the postal officials undertake to chastise any of the capitalistic frauds. But the complaints against Goldfield have poured in from every quarter where the unsuspecting public, lured by glowing advertisements in the press, have been caused to separate themselves from their hard-earned savings. It is the fashion in the Western states for some of the political backers of the successful candidate for governor to float several corporations posing as mining companies on the prestige that the title "Governor" brings to a cow puncher. The "Governor" gets a block of non-assessable stock and it is flaunted far and wide that the newly elected governor is a director and large stockholder in such and such a mine. The gullible section of the public who have sufficiently recovered from the effects of the latest "confidence" game are ready to bite again in the proportion that they do not gain wisdom by their experience.

But the Federal postal authorities say they intend to expose all the wild cats in the realm of Nevada. If they do that it knocks all the hot air out of millions of shares of stocks that have been issued on fake mines in Nevada. The direct result will be disgrace and financial embarassment to all connected with such frauds.

Sparks' ruse of provoking a civil insurrection in Nevada is calculated to kill more than one bird. Sparks is figuring on getting out as a miltary hero governor. Sparks will assign the total collapse of a multitude of Nevada fake

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THE GOLDFIELD STRIKE

MINERS STANDING FIRM—REYNOLDS, IN COMMAND OF TROOPS, OF OPINION THAT MINE OWNERS MISLED PRESIDENT—SAYS THAT DISTRICT IS PEACEFUL—FUNSTON A TROUBLE BREEDER—A. F. OF L. MEN LIVE UP TO PRINCIPLES OF THEIR ORGANIZATION MAGNIFICENTLY.

Goldfield, Nev., December 15.—The American Federation of Labor has again shown its loyalty to the foes of labor. The electricians, engineers and carpenters exploited by the New California Power Company, instead of helping their fellow workmen on strike, have patched up with their loving brother Capital who has decided to reduce their wages only two dollars per day. The truce is that they return to work for ten days at the old rate of pay and during this time "a new scale will be prepared." That means that the power company will convince the A. F. of L. leaders that business is so dull that the reduction is necessary. The leaders will take the bosses' statements and keep their rank and file at work, thereby scabbing on the real organized workers in the Industrial Workers of the World.

The mine owners have circulated a new myth to the effect that a member of the Western Federation has deserted his union and therefore the pickets beat his wife. Then noting the thinness of their story they added that the woman had been boarding some of the strike-breakers, and had even openly expressed antipathy to the Federation. So far no arrests have been made. Where the woman is no one knows.

Goldfield, Nev., December 13.—The operators attempted to open the mines yesterday. Pickets report that it was a miserable failure, but ten men being at work on all the properties, and as to the reports of union men deserting to the mine owners, the fact of the matter is that not one union man has broken ranks.

Pres. MacKinnon of the Miners' Union and another official interviewed General Funston yesterday and they report that he disclaims any intention of interfering with the strike. There will be no deportation of union men, he says. The Commission appointed by Pres. Roosevelt is now on the way from Washington, and when the evidence is all in we may confidently expect a report equally damaging to the cause of the mine owners as Public Document 122.

Gov. Sparks is in camp and has been drunk most of the time. He admits that the troops were sent for at the behest of the mine owners. It happens, however, that the move by which they expected to win and annihilate the union, has turned out to be a boomerang, which has knocked those using it galley-west.

The operators have gone too far. They expected to have the troops at their beck and call and use them just as they pleased in the attempt to smash the union and open the mines. Martial law, according to their notion, was to be declared openly. The troops now more than suspect that they were brought here under false pretenses.

The union is in good shape and occupies a position from which the mine owners will hardly dislodge it. The men are united in this, let that be known. Our enemies were banking upon dissensions in our ranks, but in this they were sadly mistaken.

The Executive Board of the W. F. M. now in session in Denver wires that all its resources are at our disposal. We stand for what is right, are united, and out to win.

Goldfield, December 13.—Although a few non-union men are at work in the Combination Mine, there has been no apparent effort here to start operations in any of the other properties, and it is generally believed that the owners are having considerable difficulty in getting labor. The union officers say that a large proportion of the men now at work in their employ, who have been sent to procure evidence of the company's violation of a recent Nevada law which provides that "it shall be unlawful for a firm to make an employee sign an agreement to withdraw from any labor organization which he may have joined." It is said that the arrest of several officers of the mining company, charged with violating this law, will be ordered to-day.

Goldfield, December 14.—The possibility of the immediate removal of the Federal troops sent here at the request of the mine operators has dwindled steadily since the arrival of Gen. Funston at Goldfield.

To-day he made the definite announcement that "his investigations had showed him that the situation was much worse than he had anticipated, and that neither he nor Gov. Sparks would consent to the withdrawal of the regulars before the investigation to be made by the Government commission is completed."

Los Angeles, December 14.—M. J. Monnette, president of the Los Angeles-Nevada mining exchange, and one of the big operators at Goldfield, in an interview, tries to throw the whole blame for the present situation in Goldfield at the door of William D. Haywood. Monnette said:

"All of the present trouble at Goldfield is due to the activity of William D. Haywood, secretary-treasurer of the Western Federation of Miners. It was due solely to his influence that the miners' union refused to accept checks on the Goldfield banks in payment of their wages some time ago, and at a meeting of the miners urged them to refuse these checks.

"The mine owners' association is determined that it will no longer submit to the arbitrary dictation of a few union agitators.'

Haywood has already shown this statement to be absurd. The Goldfield members of the W. F. M. and I. W. W. do not strike at any man's dictation, but when they see the necessity of the move.

Washington, December 11.—Assistant Secretary Murray of the Department of Commerce and Labor; Charles P. Neill, commissioner of labor, and Herbert Knox Smith, commissioner of corporations, left Washington this afternoon for Goldfield, Nev., to make an investigation of the trouble precipitated by the mine operators at that place. Secretary Murray and Commissioner Smith made this announcement after a conference with President Roosevelt to-day.

Goldfield, Nev., December 11.—The Mine Owners' Association have again scattered bait in the form of a circular in which they assure the miners that those who will scab will be taken care of, but so far there has been none who would be willing to prove a traitor to his fellow workmen. The operators' threat to bring in strike breakers has not yet borne any fruit.

At the meeting of the executive committee of the Miners' Union last night, resolutions condemning the authorities for sending the troops, protesting against their remaining here, and demanding their withdrawal at once, were passed. The decision to stand by the previous declarations in regard to the refusal to accept scrip in lieu of coin for wages was made, and it was also decided to make no overtures to the mine owners other than those previously extended.

Goldfield, Nev., December 10.—All those not connected with the Mine Owners' organization declare that they are confident that there will be no trouble as long as the troops are kept from becoming boisterous. The operators are circulating reports that attempts at intimidation, threats of violence, and even attempts to commit violence have been made, but these reports are known to be false, at least in Goldfield.

Officers of the Mine Owners' Association assert that they will permit men belonging to the American Federation of Labor or affiliated unions to go to work, and will not bar men belonging to any labor organization, except the Western Federation and the Industrial Workers of the World.

The streets of Goldfield are crowded with men and the air is filled with many wild rumors.

It is openly declared that when Governor Sparks called on the Federal Government for troops he was at that moment a guest of representatives of Simon Guggenheim, ex-Senator W. A. Clark, of Montana, and Senator George Nixon, of Nevada. Nixon at the time was in Washington.

It is also declared that a telegram had just been received from Nixon by the Governor's entertainer that the War De-

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WHITHER ARE WE DRIFTING?

NOTES AND COMMENTS—BY MITCHELL H. SHAYNIN.

(CONTINUED FROM LAST WEEK.)

If the business and public life of the capitalist class is full of brutality, cheating and stealing, their private life is as devoid of morality as their word is of honor. We often hear of "monkey dinners" at Newport, "Seeley suppers" in New York and "early breakfasts" somewhere else. We hear of the Thaws, the Hydes, the Harry Loehrs and a horde of men and women who have lost all sense of decency, propriety, humanity and the only service they perform is in furnishing the medical profession with the most advanced types of degeneracy. Nothing serves better to illustrate their morality than the following table of divorces, compiled by "The Chicago Tribune":

AMERICAN HEIRESS.	FORTUNE.	MARRIED.	RESULT.
Miss Anna Robinson	$ 500,000	Lord Rosslyn	Separated
Miss Helen Morton	1,000,000	Duc de Valency	Neglected
Miss Florence Drouillard	500,000	Count Bernard de Pourtales	Separated
Miss Elizabeth Curtiss	500,000	Duc de Dino	Divorced
Mrs. Frederick Stevens	7,000,000	Lord William Bagot	Separated
Miss Isabel Tucker	1,000,000	Baron Brinsart von Schwenllendorf	Separated
Miss Edith Van Buren	500,000	Lord Lindsay	Divorced
Miss Lillian May	500,000	Count Castelmanardo	Separated
Miss Julia B. Mackay	500,000	Prince Colonna	Divorced
Miss Marie Reine Fuss	500,000	Count Penaloza	Divorced
Miss Consuelo Vanderbilt	20,000,000	Duke of Marlborough	Will Separate
Miss Anna Gould	25,000,000	Count de Castellane	Divorced

We could go on with the Coreys, the Hartjes, the Platts, and continue this list indefinitely, if our nostrils could endure the stench these divorce scandals are producing. And this is called an "upper class," a "higher society"! Their lives are rather low. The capitalist class has neither morals nor ideals, and the talk on morality, law and order, sounds strange on the lips of such people, and comes with bad grace from a source that has never known morality and breaks the law of the land, creating anarchy, every time it suits its pockets. It is amidst these conditions of refined cannibalism, when millions are being degraded to poverty so as to enable a few to revel in swinish gluttony, that the young generation, the college youth, is being born and brought up.

Much has been written on the imitative power of children, and one could fill a volume with personal observations. Children play "Papa and Mamma", "Girl and Boy", imitating the relations of different members of their families; they play "milkman", "tailor", "conductor", or any other occupation which they had an opportunity to observe; children of the lower grades play "school"; children of a physician play "doctor and patient"; in the slums children play "drunkard and policeman", and so on and so forth. The young generation—and it matters not what class it comes from—is being fed on the same adulterated food, the same embalmed meat from the Chicago stockyards, it breathes the same foul air full of exposures of graft and swindle, it feeds its mind on that "yellow", commercialized literature and has before itself the "illustrious examples" of the captains of industry on the industrial field and some of our "best citizens" on the political field. Are we then to wonder at the unpleasant manifestations of the student body? We pride ourselves of being "fair" in our treatment of others, and talk a great deal of the "square deal". Let us then be fair to the young generation and let the students have a square deal. The brutality they are displaying in hazing and foot ball, the moral cowardice, cheating and stealing of their every day life, are but the expressions of the spirit of our age, whose children they are—the fruit on the capitalist tree.

"You shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles? Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit, but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit. A good tree can not bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire." (Matthew, ch. 7, verses 16, 17, 18, 19). And will this corrupt capitalist tree be hewn down and cast into fire? The ominous warnings of our teachers, preachers and public men on the one hand, and the awakening of the working class on the other, eloquently answer the question.

Prof. Ira W. Howerth, of the University of Chicago, discussing "The Social Question of To-day", gives us the following warning:

> "The clouds of social discontent have been long gathering. It is a dull ear that cannot now hear mutterings of a coming storm. Forewarned, however, we are told, is forearmed. We may therefore indulge the hope that when the storm strikes, if strike it does, the ship of state will not be taken unawares, but will be prepared to receive it and weather it out. But if this is so, it will be because of the warnings of social barometry have been not merely noted by a few minds, but also heeded by the people generally. It will be because there has been much general study of the social question." ("American Journal of Socialogy," September, 1906.)

Dr. Jacob Gould Schurman, President of Cornell, in an address delivered in Trinity Church, New York, under the auspices of the Seabury Society, said:

> "Steam, electricity and consolidated capital are in our own days eliminating the small producer and the small trader. The chance of young men becoming independent producers and traders, when business is conducted on the scale of millions, instead of thousands or hundreds of dollars, is vastly less than it was in the time of our fathers.
>
> "The wage-earner, feeling himself and his children doomed to poverty, rises in rebellion against the economic system which makes such things possible. He protests that capital gets too large a share of the product which laboring men create. His remedy, when he has a remedy, is confiscation of private capital in the public interests and the establishment of a socialistic state, in which all shall work and all receive compensation in proportion to their deserts.
>
> "The masses of wage-earners are, I believe, in angry revolt against the vast inequalities which the present economic system produces. Shall the end be socialism, revolution, or what? For remember that these discontented classes may easily constitute the majority of our voters, and that in this republic policies are determined by the vote of the majority."

Speaking of the present conditions in the country, President Roosevelt warned the nation, saying: "The swollen fortunes are a positive menace and we are drifting into an oligarchy of wealth that would bring disaster to the American people." Thus speaks the President of the nation, and he is seconded by one who would like to be president. Upon his return from abroad, when W. J. Bryan was greeted as the only "safe, sane, and conservative force", the "peerless and fearless leader" of the bankrupt middle class thus defined plutocracy in his first public speech:

> "Plutocracy is abhorrent to a republic; it is more despotic than monarchy, more heartless than aristocracy, more selfish than bureaucracy. It preys upon the nation in time of peace, and conspires against it in the hour of its calamity. Conscienceless, compassionless, and devoid of wisdom, it enervates its votaries while it impoverishes its victims. It is already sapping the strength of the nation, vulgarizing social life, and making a mockery of morals. The time is ripe for its overthrow. Let us attack it boldly, making our appeal to the awakened conscience of the nation in the name of the counting room which it has defiled, in the name of business honor which it has sullied, in the name of the people whom it has oppressed, in the name of the homes which it has despoiled, and in the name of religion upon which it has placed the stigma of hypocrisy."

In a speech before the Knife and Fork Club of Kansas City, Mo., the famous Chicago jurist, Judge Peter S. Grosscup, thus explains the people's discontent:

> "The cause of the people's discontent is in the fact that throughout the years since Lee's surrender the great new life was becoming incorporated. No pains were taken to interest either worker or people as proprietors at all, the one instrumentality in which the new industrial life had embodied itself having been left, though state created, a mere shell, under whose roof and behind whose walls every form of treachery, and nearly every form of theft were given free rein. This is the great black sin of the times in which we live."

Hannis Taylor, the former minister to Spain, says that wealth lust saps the ideals of the country. On February 22, 1907, at the commemoration day at Johns Hopkins, he said:

> "I know of no monster so dangerous to the life of a republic as one who can in a moment throw bewildering millions in one direction or the other, specially when those millions grow out of abnormal conditions that should not exist. The omnipotent dispenser may throw his millions in a good direction to-day; it is sure to be in a bad one to-morrow.
>
> "But most and worst of all, he is an image breaker, he is an iconoclast who shatters the ideals upon which the life of this nation was founded. There was a time when our young men thought it worth while to strive to be like Marshall, Webster, Emerson and Washington Irving. But how long will those illusions last under the teachings of the new gospel, which proclaims that nothing is really worth while except the brute force wielded by masses of money?
>
> "If this thing goes on we can soon close all departments of our universities except those that apply the principles of physical science to the production of material wealth or its equivalent."

Dr. Felix Adler, in his address before the Ethical Culture Society, on "The Evils of Surplus Wealth", finds that wealth carries in it the taint of what the theologians call original sin:

> "Now there is something irrational in great wealth. There is no due proportion between wealth and needs nor between wealth and deserts. Rate as high as you please the service which capitalists have rendered in economy of production, still you cannot say those millions that are rolling up while a man is abroad or hunting on his estate are fair. There is something insane in the situation. There may be some fortunes clean—I don't know—but the majority of great fortunes are unclean. The taint of what theologians call original sin is in them."

In an address before the Nineteenth Century Club, Prof. Franklin H. Giddings of Columbia, said: "We are witnessing to-day, beyond question, the decay—perhaps not permanent, but at any rate the decay—of republican institutions. No man in his right mind can deny it." And in his "Natural History of American Morals" Prof. Giddings asks his readers: "Have we become a nation of speculators, gamblers and grafters? And are our attempts to 'lead a better life' largely expressed in hysteria and lynching?"

The warnings are not limited to public addresses, they are carried into our text-books. Prof. Andrew C. McLaughlin thus concludes his "History of the American Nation": "No one that looks about him can fail to see that the nation is surrounded with perils .... It rests in large measure with the boys and girls that are now at their lessons in the schools and academies of the land to determine whether or not amid the perils of the near future the principles of popular government will justify themselves."

No visitor of note has failed to notice the discontent, the mental uneasiness of the American people. H. G. Wells thus describes his impressions of American conditions of to-day:

> "I have tried to show the conception I have formed of the great skein of industrial competition that has been tightening and becoming more and more involved through all this century—long age, the age of blind growth that draws now toward its end—until the process threatens to throttle individual freedom and individual enterprise altogether. And of a great mental uneasiness and discontent, unprecedented in the history of the American mind, that promises in the near future some general and conscious endeavor to arrest this unanticipated strangulation of freedom and free living, some widespread struggle, of I know not what constructive power, with the stains and disorders and indignities that oppress and grow larger in the national consciousness. I perceive more and more that in coming to America I have chanced upon a time of peculiar significance. The note of disillusionment sounds everywhere. America for the first time in her history is taking note of herself and ridding herself of long cherished illusions." ("The Future in America," H. G. Wells.)

Even the usually cautious "New York Sun" has raised the danger signal by exclaiming "there is now a greater unrest and a greater uneasiness in the air than was before Sumter was fired on." (Dec. 28, 1906.) And above all these warnings the now ex-Secretary of the Treasury Shaw, at the banquet of the Automobile Manufacturers, New Willard Hotel, Washington, D. C., begged his listeners: "We who pray should ask God to save us from any increased prosperity." (New York Times, Dec. 16, 1906.) That such warnings and prayers from such sources should come at a time of "unprecedented prosperity" will surprise only those who can not or will not understand that the height of the prosperity of the capitalist class must be measured by the depth of poverty and misery of the working class, that the higher the prosperity of the former, the deeper the poverty of the latter.

The warnings of the press, of our teachers, preachers and public men are but half of the tale; the other half is told by the intelligent, class conscious awakening of the working class, who is no longer striving to get "a fair day's wage for a fair day's work," but boldly declares:

> "There can be no peace so long as hunger and want are found among millions of working people and the few, who make up the employing class, have all the good things of life. . . . The working class and the employing class have nothing in common. . . .
>
> Between these two classes a struggle must go on until all the toilers come together on the political, as well as on the industrial field, and take and hold that which they produce by their labor through an economic organization of the working class without affiliation with any political party." (From the Preamble to the Constitution of the Industrial Workers of the World.)

The warnings that come from the representatives of the capitalist class and the declaration of the working class supplement each other and we are again reminded that "every tree that bringeth not forth good fruits is hewn down and cast into the fire."

(CONCLUDED NEXT WEEK.)

AMERICA'S UTOPIANS

FREAKS OF FIFTY YEARS AGO WHO CALLED THEMSELVES SOCIALISTS.

One is often puzzled to know why it is that there is still so widespread a misconception of the principles and purposes of Socialism—why it is so often confounded with free love, blatherskite atheism, and other freakishness. The enemies of the movement, of course, do all they can to keep this ignorance going and the consequent prejudices alive. But there must have been some ground, however slight, upon which to build the prejudice. That there is some reason for it is attested by a few copies of a magazine, published in Cincinnati in 1856, which has come into my hands. The magazine bears the startling title: "The Social Revolutionist"; it is neat in appearance and proclaims itself "A medium for the free discussion of general principles and practical measures, pertaining to human progress and general well-being."

A careful perusal of the contents of the copies at hand excites wonder as to why the magazine or its supporters ever considered or called themselves Socialists, but evidently they did, and their vagaries are considered by the ignorant as tenets of Socialism even unto this day.

The table of contents of each of the copies before me show all sorts of assaults on the Bible, and in "Notes from the Lecturing Field" the lecturer tells of his conflicts with orthodox preachers, his own lectures being on such "Socialist" topics as: Spiritualism" and "Orthodox Theology." According to the accounts they have left us, these lecturers often had much fun with the orthodox preachers and frequently utterly discomfited them.

But our hunt is for the Socialism they are supposed to have advocated. Ha! What is this? It is a stirring poem entitled, "Song for the Bloomers," which declares that woman's salvation is at hand if she will but don the Bloomer garb. At the Phalanx Colony, near Red Bank, N. J., we believe the women did wear this serviceable but uncomely rig.

One writer dwells upon land office corruption in Iowa and waxes warm with just indignation at the practices; then lays the whole blame upon some interlopers who are described as a "numerous gang of Yankees who combine all that is hateful and dishonest in both politics and commerce."

One remarkable feature of the "Social Revolutionist" is the number of articles dwelling upon woman's sexual servitude, and the remarkable feature of the articles themselves is that most of them were written by men, and set forth arguments as to what women should be free to do.

On hardly any subject touched upon does there seem to have been anything like unanimity of opinion, or anything like agreement as to the meaning of terms. Disputation seems to have been the forte of all of the writers. "Friend" So-and-so tackles the argument of "Friend" This-or-that, then the discussion goes on merrily as at an East Side anarchist meeting. Each claims to be trying to learn just what the other means and then swings in a lot of the most remarkable assertions as to the Law of this, that, or the other. One is forced to pause and wonder at their command of "high falutin'" language and the facility with which adjectives flowed from their prolific pens. "Harmonial life" is the burden of many a fervid essay. Friend Pyburn says: "Cease, then, O man of iron muscle and stern resolve, to crush or wound they weaker, but it may be, wiser, brother! And thou, O learned man, despise not him of plainer tastes and rougher talks; for ye are all the children of one Father." And Friend Hine retorts that he is "against the solecism of a hierarchial constitution of harmonial society such as Pyburn's illustrations would seem to imply." Not only is Hine simply against it but he "protests utterly and everlastingly" and declares that what is wanted is "integral men and women for a harmonial society."

Through all the pages one note is evident—the desire for companionship, the striving to get away from the loneliness of backwoods exisaence. They had to struggle for existence, of course, but the note raised is not one of poverty,—it is a cry for fellowship that bears testimony to the oft repeated saying that man is a social animal.

But hold! here is what we are after; it is an article headed "Practical Socialism." Now we shall learn something, and we do. We learn that their "Socialism" was calculated to gratify their yearning for companionship, that "Socialism" was simply the colony scheme which, while setting forth glowing pictures of the benefits of life in Phalanstry, orchard, garden, ornamental grounds and other things of the dreamed of paradise, really had not one feature of Socialism about it.

I fear some of the "friends" had personal interests of their own to serve in offering colony sites, as when an advocate of Kansas declares that "the devil has all the best places east of the Mississippi." One prefers Ohio as being the "least bigoted"; another declares "before God I believe that the region west and south of the Missouri will, ere long, be speckled with fraternal groups of living men and women." His Satanic Majesty must have played an important part in affairs in those days; even from the far West came the warning: "The devil reigns supreme here."

A "friend" in Southern Illinois tries to rope in the brethren. He can "get hold" of a tract of 1,600 acres and, wishing to do good," he invites the brethren to organize a joint stock company and he will do the rest. There are spokesmen for colony sites in West Virginia and in Texas. One argument against West Virginia is that the people are more like dogs than human beings and that such surrounding influences would drag down the "harmonial community." Others claimants for recognition dwell entirely upon the beautiful scenery and healthfulness of the places of their choice. At last we find one lone individual rises to briefly remark, "Our work can be done far better by staying at home."

To back up their arguments for the colony plan several illustrations, "standing monuments of successful experiments in Socialism," are given. Invariably these turn out to be religious associations, accepting the Bible as their exclusive rule and guide, and instance attendance at church about five times a week for general instruction and guidance. In fact, the illustrations dragged in by the writers in the "Social Revolutionist" as "monuments of successful experiments in Socialism," differed from themselves in about every particular—celibacy, religion and other peculiarities were the main features of the "successful communities."

One or two of the contributors seem to have been more hard-headed than the rest. One, for instance, taunts his brethren with being in favor of free love until it came to their own wives, "then they become mean tyrants not willing to do as they would be done by." Another complains that "too many reformers, while talking long and loud against oppression, yet when a poor laborer asks them for work beat him down to the lowest going wages."

Fourier's colony plan, as adopted in America, has been much idealized in articles upon the subject. From these old papers I gather that it attracted all that was freakish in the population. With our knowledge of the futility of Fourierism as a solution of the social problem this is not to be wondered at, and yet even to-day there are those who think they can flee from the struggle and strife by seeking refuge in a colony. That it is a vain hope the history of all such colonies—from the idealism of Brook Farm down to the swindle of Ruskin, bears ample testimony.

Despite all efforts to revive it, such Utopianism is, however, practically dead, but there still lingers in the popular mind the freakishness upon which it was founded, and the fact that these freaks called themselves Socialists. But as the stern Movement of to-day moves forward the stigmas from Utopianism cannot prevail against it. Yet it is profitful withal to learn just how the misconceptions with regard to Socialism arose—mainly through the antics of people who took to themselves a name of which they had not the slightest inkling of its purport. H. S. K.

INDUSTRIAL UNIONISM.

Before a packed audience at Seminole Hall, 414 Grand street, Daniel De Leon, Editor of The People, delivered an address last night on "Industrial Unionism," under the auspices of the Millinery Workers' Industrial Union.

The address was followed closely by all, and at the close several earnest and intelligent questions were answered. The speaker showed that Industrial Unionism consisted not so much in the "form" of organization, but upon its revolutionary intent, and its destined function in the overthrow of capitalism. Over a hundred persons were turned away for lack of space.

PHILA. PROTESTS

S. L. P. EXPOSES PLOT TO CRUSH GOLDFIELD MINERS.

Rousing Resolutions Against Capitalist Machinations Passed Unanimously by Big Audience—Workers Warned That, If They Do Not Resent This, Their Turn May Be Next.

Philadelphia, December 10.—It is not usual to report S. L. P. open-air meetings as late as the 8th of December—none the less we held a meeting Sunday night at which 500 people stood for two hours listening to Campbell and Young.

The occasion of this meeting was as follows: Saturday night the following telegram was received:

"Thomas Flynn, 719 S. 24th St., Philadelphia, Pa. Hold mass meeting at once to protest against sending Federal troops to Goldfield. Arouse the slaves!

"Wm. E. Trautmann.
"V. St. John."

Flynn immediately notified our members and we arranged a protest meeting at the East Plaza, City Hall, for Sunday night. A large crowd gathered and the news from Goldfield was discussed without pattering with the issue.

Young spoke straight to the workers and told the story of Goldfield. He said: Your turn will come next, and what are you going to do about it?" There was little cheering; the working class is not cheering these days, but the silence was ominous. Campbell followed Young and spoke in his usual energetic way. Indeed, so energetic was he that he upset the platform and would have received a bad fall had not Durner caught the iron supports and brought it back to an upright position. The earnestness of the crowd may be imagined from the fact that not even a ripple of laughter greeted the mishap. The people who surrounded that platform were in no joking mood.

The following resolutions were handed to Campbell, who read them to the audience and called for a vote. They were passed without a dissenting voice being raised.

"Resolutions adopted at mass meeting held in the open-air in Philadelphia, December 8, 1907, by the Socialist Labor Party:

"Whereas President Roosevelt has given orders that the United States army shall be used in Goldfield, Nevada, to aid the capitalists in forcing the members of the working class to accept worthless scrip instead of lawful money in payment of their wages; therefore be it

"Resolved, that we condemn such action and denounce the invasion of a peaceful community as a violation of the liberty guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States."

These resolutions were passed with a mighty shout of approval.

The I. W. W. Industrial Council is arranging for a series of protest meetings and we hope to do something towards "arousing the slaves." The council is in session now.

At the meeting a goodly number of Peoples and pamphlets were sold and some subscriptions were taken.

Sec'y. Agitation Committee.

HISTORY OF CHRISTIANITY.

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All that can be said by Christians in regard to the *Origin of Christianity* is reprinted from the valuable notes of DEAN MILMAN, WENCK, GUIZOT, and other eminent Christian historians who have edited Gibbon's works.

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INDUSTRIAL INSURANCE

THE GREAT TRINITY, AND HOW ITS PRIESTS (AGENTS) PROPAGATE ITS CULT : : : : :

By WILBY HEARD.

Life insurance is a religion; at least the industrial insurance is. Like all institutions based on trust or faith it has its Trinity—the Metropolitan, the Prudential and the John Hancock companies—three distinct bodies with but one spirit; their promises of reward are different, but their goal is the same.

This religion has its heaven and its hell. The heaven is in the form of a few dollars after death for which you must keep on p(r)aying all your life. The hell is that you are lapsed and lose all, should you stop p(r)aying. It has its orthodox and its infidels, its followers (or rather victims) and its missionaries, the agents. One of the last named it has been my misfortune to be, and it took four years to rid myself of that "honor."

For four years have I helped mothers to rob their baby's bank of its few pennies, if there were any. I have snatched nickles and dimes, earned by rheumatic woman over the wash tub, that should have bought bread or coal. I have snatched these meagre scrapings from the old and the poor, and turned them over to parasites who bought automobiles, built palaces, bribed politicians, and guided the pen of newspaperdom. For all that, my activities were no more or less than legal "business."

The insurance religion, like all other religions, has been reared by its missionaries. There is not a company in existence to-day that could last a single year were it not for the agents representing it. Two score smooth tongued solicitors could in a short time create a brand new company whose career would send a chill from the roof of the glossy stovepipe hat to the stolen high polished shoes of the insurance grafters in the old and long-established companies—a chill that would make them quite forget to choose a single one of these men for U. S. president, or governor either. The old company grafters are well aware of this fact, and proved it last spring when they used every crooked method imaginable to keep the agents from organizing; for well they know that like all business institutions, the insurance company finds its sustenance in the ignorance that binds the working class.

But my object here is not with the companies, but to portray a thorough insurance apostle; and by way of introduction, a few explanatory statements will not be amiss. I am a resident of the city of Greater New York, and have plundered for the Trinity; I have proven a failure, 'tis true, yet for all that, if one can get to heaven on the number of insurance converts he made while on this sinful earth, I am quite sure of a plush-lined seat with an automatic harp. I can play no other.

A solicitor for insurance needs no other supplies than an indelible pencil and the application blanks of the company he is to advertise; but the "wise" ones take along a few booklets containing miracles witnessed by the company's officials—in dreams, of course. Each miracle is followed by a joke or a confession—that is, a testimonial. The company issues these little sacred tracts, so it states on the cover page, for the sole benefit of the public. (Mercy, what benevolence!) Besides these, the company often shows its kindheartedness and philanthropy by supplying the canvasser with a handful of one of the following articles: tape-measures, match-scratchers, thimbles, half a dozen cheap needles on a card, two or three bits of court plaster, or blotters that really blot. Each of these great gifts bears the company's name stamped upon it, and is called a "door-opener." Around Christmas time they actually give away clumsy stiff board calendars which the poor agent must lug about, one for each customer. This by-occupation makes him look and feel like a pack animal, whose name I will not mention.

The following will give a fair idea of an agent's talk. The same talk, with a few immaterial changes, will serve any and every company. The man that has already worked for one of these money-grabbing concerns stands triple the chances of getting a job with any of the other concerns that an innocent wage-slave does.

We will start with the Hancock; as bait we will use thimbles. Standing before a closed door with, say, half a dozen thimbles in the left hand, one in the right, the agent knocks. Now listen:

"Good morning, lady; I represent the—"

Bang goes the door, and through the panel is heard "I've had enough of you insurance pedlars."

Remember, this may be the fourth or fifth man who has received this same welcome, this same morning, from this same woman. But an agent must forget everything except what he is out for. The agent of experience remembers one other thing, and that is that at a certain number on a business street, in a roomy, airy office with its walls richly decorated, its floor bedecked with a thick rug, and with slaves to rush noiselessly at his every wish, sits a well-fed, well-dressed individual who will have little praise, if any, for him, no matter how well he succeeds. All superintendents are taught the motto, "'Tis the early bird that catches the worm." The word "worm" fits well.

Back to our agent. He tries the next door, with the same preliminaries. The door is opened by a middle-aged woman, the "Good morning" is returned this time, while an inquiring look spreads over her face. "I represent the John Hancock Insurance Company of Boston, Massachusetts. They are sending special agents this week to distribute these souvenirs among their customers, and you are on the list—What, you are *not* insured in the Hancock! How is that? Isn't your name Mrs. Smith? No? Well, I *beg* your pardon, there must be a mistake somewhere. But did not any one of your family ever belong to our company and become lapsed? Your husband? Ah! there, I see; that's how it is! You see, "our" company never forgets a policy-holder, and we are always glad to have a lapsed member join again and give us a chance to make up for what they have already paid in. We have a new policy now, just out a week or so ago [A lie—the policy is about six years old] and we'll give you this new policy at the same rate! Yes, it must be because your husband was insured in our company that this souvenir was sent you. Here, take this thimble; it costs you nothing!

"Are you insured now?" the agent runs on. "Every one in the family? How much insurance do you carry? What! only 60 cents a week on a family of four! My *dear* lady, I'm *surprised!* And in the Prudential at that! What did you say your name was? Mrs. Jones? Thank you! Did you say your husband is a truck driver? He is healthy now, is he not? What do you pay a week for him? F-i-f-t-e-e-n cents! [This is drawn out in a slow, surprised tone.] Do you *mean* to *tell* me that the head of your family, on whom your *bread* and *butter* depends, is insured for so small a sum! And truck driving is *such* a risky job, too! You don't think so? Why, in my experience, I find it so; I could give you many instances. But really that is something strange. I have seldom come across such a case, and I am several years in the business." [As a matter of fact, he may be only a month in it.]

A little chap sticks his head out between his mother's dress and the partly open door. He is homelier than sin, and has as much dirt on his countenance as one face can hold.

The agent spots the child and takes a fresh start. "What a nice little chap! About 11 years old, isn't he? I thought so. This business makes a man become a pretty good judge! How old are you, Mrs. Jones? I should guess? Well, I should say about 32. What! Forty-four! Well, I declare! Upon my word, I have seen women of 30 look as old as you do now, and let me tell you right now, it is very, very seldom I make such a mistake.

"Is this little fellow insured? For five cents? All you can carry on a child his age is ten cents, you know; why not have him insured to the limit? All he gets now is $120. Let me make out a policy for the other five cents. Really, you will never miss it.

"You don't care to be insured in more than one company! My *dear woman*, you will find very few families now-a-days insured in only one.

"Now, listen," continues the agent, unctuously; "I'm one of our special agents sent out to introduce our new policies into every home. I don't ask you for any money now; you don't have to pay me a cent till you have the policy. All I want is to acquaint you with the benefits of our policies. You know all about them? I *beg* your pardon; if so, how is it you are insured in a company where you must wait fifteen years for your dividends? We pay dividends every year after the first five years. How is that? Simply because our company is a 'mutual' insurance company incorporated under the laws of Massachusetts. The Prudential and Metropolitan are 'stock' companies, run by a few men. Now, I don't mean to run them down, but it is the laws, you know. The Hancock couldn't do what the others do if it wanted to. If you had one of our policies, I could show you that it reads plainly on the back of it that you, as a policy-holder, even if it is for five cents, have a right to vote for or against the laws of the company. You can't do that in any other! That's why our company is anxious to introduce our policies, so as to educate the people to this fact."

The woman does not relent yet, but the agent pursues the game. "You let me insure that little chap for just five cents," he begs. "I want you to know our company. Children are so uncertain; you never know what will happen next. I had a queer case about two weeks ago—no, it was only last week. I was trying to get a mother to insure her little girl, about as big as your boy here. But O, no, not just then; she wanted the insurance, but later on. I was there to-day. She wanted a ten cent policy, but the doctor should not call. But you bet she did not get the insurance. You see, the child had caught a severe cold, and her doctor said the girl had pneumonia. You know our company is very particular, for it is very prompt in making payments in case of death, and it wants to be sure the party being insured is well at the time. Your boy is well, isn't he? No use talking insurance if not. Oh yes, yes, he *looks* to be a healthy chap, but you can never tell. That's why we have the doctor examine them—[a pause.] Costs you nothing, you know."

By this time the victim, if an ordinary woman, is so rattled she doesn't know where she is at, and the agent must act quickly. Taking out his application blanks he proceeds:

"Now you will get your policy in a week or so. What did you say the boy's first name was?" If the woman does not resist, and nine times out of ten she will let the name asked for slip from her tongue unconsciously, the agent goes on filling out the red tape questions and talking any old thing while doing so. The less intelligent the statements are, the stronger their effect. If the woman refuses to sign, the dose is repeated with a few slight changes here and there. No matter how many times the woman refuses, the better the agent is, the less attention he pays to her demurrals. On the other hand, if she signs, the agent's job is done for that day, at least. She is thanked, and he tries the next door or floor as the case may be.

When the policy is brought to her, the chances are it is refused because the husband objected, or because after regaining her senses the woman thought the matter over and regretted the act. If the refusal be due to the husband, the agent will try to see him some evening, and if the agent is cut out for a solicitor, and the man is only an ordinary human being, the agent will not only induce him to keep the child's policy, but he will also place higher insurance on the man's life in his own company. Sometimes he will go as far as to have a person drop his old insurance and reinsure in the new company. In such cases he not only makes the poor man lose all he paid in previously, but actually go without full benefit insurance for a whole year. This is done generally by bringing out the many bad points in the policy of the other company, and comparing them to the few so-called good points in that of the one he represents.

Another fact to be borne in mind is that no agent will succeed unless he thoroughly understands the contracts of the rival companies as well as his own. If he is a man of ordinary intelligence he must learn these points as time goes on, if it be from no other source than from the continuous complaints coming from the different policy-holders waking up under the company's knocks. The man who would write new business or even keep the business already written, must know how to shatter the arguments of opposing solicitors.

The Hancock man's side of the dividend argument I have already shown. Now, suppose it is a Prudential man, and the prospective victim is insured in the Hancock. He'll speak thus:

"My dear lady, it is *true* the Hancock pays you on your dividends every year; but do you get it in cash? No! Of course not! It is put on your premium book. With us, I admit, you must wait fifteen years for your first dividends, and then you get them every five years; but can't you see our advantages? We pay you in cash; you get a nice little sum which comes in very handy." And so he goes on.

The Metropolitan man will give his arguments just as logically and reasonably till he gains his point. All this, of course, is supposing that the person talked to is considering the proposition, or is a believer in insurance, or is already insured, but "not in the right company." But suppose she is against insurance altogether, or has already tasted some of the bitter "sweets" of the game. Why, the agent is shocked by the report, and shows it too. Then all at once he recalls the fact that he has come across a few cases in the last two months or so where they were against insurance, and would you believe it, since then they are regretting their delay! In one case the husband died, and now the family is starving; in another the wife is sick and is worrying her flesh away because she did not grasp with open arms the golden opportunity that knocked at her door (for her pennies); in a third, the child was run over by a trolley, if there is one on the street where the person being talked to lives; if not, it was a heavy truck. So sad are the stories, they are enough to frighten a person into committing suicide just to escape life's uncertainties and avoid the ever-gaping pitfalls that await the uninsured. There is a saying among the people that the insured die quick. To this I concocted an answer that used to work wonders. I would tell them that, on the contrary, the party that insured in our company was sure of a long life, for the officials would pray for him.

Such is a mere glimpse into the life of the insurance solicitor, the slave of the blood-sucking corporation, a demon whose vile grin will not vanish till the Socialist Republic be established.

There is one more point just brought to my attention, and one too good to postpone giving, because not one man out of a thousand ever figured it out. It shows how the companies gain thousands of dollars on their weekly premiums that they cannot rob from those who pay annually.

There are in every year 52 weeks and one day; leap years have 52 weeks and two days. So that about every six years the companies are just one week ahead. That may not seem much at first sight, but just note this: Each office collects every week, say, to use a small figure, $5,000. Now multiply that by ten, allowing a company but ten offices for the city of Greater New York. The sum raked in each week is, then, $50,000. This is what the company comes out ahead every six years, or about $8,300 per year, merely by the operating of the calendar. If this fact alone could be brought home to every victim of industrial insurance, it would deliver a blow to the grafters that would remind them of a Kansas cyclone with no cellar in sight. Hughes with all his wisdom never mentioned this. I (don't) wonder why. Do you?

1893--1907

Will the Horrors of Fourteen Years Ago Be Repeated This Winter?

Providence, R. I., December 12.—Many workers doubtlessly remember the panic of 1893; but unless they spent the winter of 1893-94 in a certain western city not far from Upton Sinclair's "Jungle," they never really experienced the horrors of a panic.

The World's Fair left many men and boys stranded along the Lake Front. To take care of these strangers was a problem. They could go nowhere, and a job was rarer than a virtuous Pittsburg millionaire. The winter coming on promised to be a hard one.

When the cold weather did arrive it sent the thermometer down to zero and the homeless ones, ablebodied men, willing and able to work, honest, decent, and respectable men forced to accept the charity of the city in return for hard work.

Along the Lake Front "shacks" were built, long low buildings with inclined planks runnin from the walls to within a foot of the middle of the structure, leaving a passage way about two feet wide. These inclined boards were the only beds many of the unfortunates knew all through that awful winter. For breakfast they ere given a hunk of bread and a cup of weak coffee, and in return for all this were compelled to go out every day and clean the snow from the streets. All morning they would work, most of them ill-clad, all of them half starved, a horrible, awful, pitiful crowd. Back to the barracks at noon, out again, to supper, and then "bed."

The jails were crowded that winter. Men deliberately committed misdemeanors and crimes that they might be arrested and sent to prison where they knew a bed and food awaited them. The floor of the City Hall was crowded with newspapers, timetables, blankets (in rare instances), upon which men, human beings, stretched their weary limbs, to awaken in the morning to face another wretched day. The churches opened their doors at night, and in the pews and on the floor of the aisles men, honest men, made in the image of the God in whose glory the elifice was erected, slept. Slept? No! They did not sleep. They went mad for lack of sleep, for food, for a ray of hope.

Mechanics, common laborers, clerks, young lawyers, chemists, druggists—in short, men of every profession among the mental and manual workers, might be found cleaning the streets. Chicago took advantage of her starving ones as did Lancashire, as Marx tells us. Whether 'tis America or England the workers are exploited, every want taken advantage of by their masters.

The writer reached Chicago one cold morning in December, 1893, with about eighty cents in his pockets and nothing in his stomach. Through the "kindness" of the aunt of an old chum work was secured as a porter in a hotel at a wage of nothing per month. In other words, it was calmly and plainly stated that we could go to work for our board and room. As an eighteen-year-old boy generally carries a healthy appetite, and as snow shoveling has its drawbacks, the job was accepted. From 6 a. m. to 8, 9 and 10 p. m. we hustled, performing tasks unfitted to our previous training. The consolation Socialism affords was not ours, but it was not long ere the doctrine of Marx was grounded deep into a receptive mind.

Eighteen hundred and ninety-three is history. Will we see another in this year of grace 1907?

E. A. See.

THE OUT-OF-WORK PROBLEM

LOOMING BIG IN WESTERN STATES, IN SPITE OF CAPITALIST PRESS.

Pueblo, Colo., December 3.—The capitalist press of the land is bent on prolonging the confidence game and, like the professional bunco-steerer, does not only suppress the facts, but wilfully misrepresents the prevailing conditions, and leaves the minds of its deluded readers with the impression that the workingmen of this state and this section of the country, have not and do not feel to-day the effects of the financial panic.

Whether the individual proprietors of the capitalist press like it or not, they must take that course which they know will be their own undoing, which will banish their own self-respect and which will show to the workers the true character of the journalistic Black Hundred. What are the facts as to the effects of the panic in this part of the country? A swelling of the army of the unemployed, with the consequent fall in wages due to the increased supply of jobless men. It would extend this article too greatly to tell of conditions as I found them in my job-hunt over different parts of the state in the last six weeks. To avoid too lengthy an article let me take Pueblo, Colorado, as a typical illustration.

Take a walk down Union avenue. You will notice standing on the corners, in the middle of the blocks, in hallways, saloons and pool-rooms, and grouped around the employment agencies, a sad looking lot of workingmen. These fellows have found from experience the folly of walking their legs off going from shop to shop in search of a job, and have established, as it were, an unofficial headquarters for the out-of-work, where they meet to exchange experiences.

As you walk along leisurely and speak with these men you find that their experience is that you may as well look for a needle in a haystack as to look for a job now. Even the lure of a far-away job is not there. But let us not be too hasty. There are six employment agencies here—one State (free) and five private.

One morning I made the rounds of all of them. No. 1 was visited, and on inquiry for a job, "Yes, I want two men to top beets."

"What's in it?" "A dollar a day and board."

"Why, that used to pay $1.50 a day and board!" "Yes, I know."

"Well, why don't they pay that now?" "Well, jobs are harder to get and men are plentiful."

"I see. But that's only about a week's work. Got nothing else?" "Not a thing now."

No. 2 was visited. A dejected looking creature was the proprietor.

"What kind of jobs have you got this morning?" "Well," he drawled, wiping his mustache and tugging at his extra-sized trousers, "I've got passes for eight men, but they are cancelled now. You come back this afternoon."

"No jobs at all" "Well, not just now. Come back this afternoon."

No. 3 is on the second floor, with a hallway leading to it. The signs are displayed at the bottom of the hallway, and a number of signs tell of men wanted here and there. These are old signs but they serve as an advertisement. Before venturing upstairs the writer looked over these ads, and in a conspicuous place, printed on large letters, on a cardboard about 18 x 24 inches, was this inscription:

"Wait till the sun shines,
Billy; I will get you work
by and by."

I made my way upstairs and found a baldheaded man, lolling back in his chair, the very picture of waggish despair.

"Anythin doing this morning?" "Not a d——n thing."

"Did you put that sign up downstairs?" "Ha! ha! te-he! Yes, te-he. Did you read it?"

I turned and walked out, with the echo of his te-he's and ha-ha's still ringing in my ears.

At Nos. 4 and 5 'twas the same old tale. Not a job to be had. Ah! but weary job-hunter, don't lose all hope; the great capitalist State of Colorado has under its wing a free employment agency. Let's go over and see what hope there is there of a job.

Seated in an easy chair is a well-fed creature, well groomed, who seems to care but little of the storm and strife going on. Let us see if he has any jobs.

"Any jobs?" "Not a thing."

"Have you had any calls for men lately?" "I haven't placed a man for over two weeks."

Shattered hopes. As these journeys from office to office were interspersed by little chats with members of this army of unemployed the noon hour arrived and I went to dinner.

About two o'clock in the afternoon of the same day I went to the freight office of the Missouri Pacific railroad and made my way to the roadmaster's office. The roadmaster, be it understood, has the employing of section foremen and extra gang foremen, and also the men on the sections and extra gangs.

I applied for a job on an extra gang, and was informed by the clerk that they needed nine men, and that more than fifty men had applied for the job. He, however, took my name and told me to be prepared to go out on the 6:05 p. m. train. I asked what wages were being paid. "$1.60, and nine hours' work."

"But," I said, "the pay was $1.75 all of last winter."

"Yes," was the significant reply, "*that was last winter.*"

At 5:30 p. m. I went to the freight depot, where the passenger train stops to pick up passengers, and I found twenty-five or thirty men grouped together talking rather loud and boisterously, and when I got up near them and asked a few questions of those on the outskirts of the crowd I found that the pass for nine men had been given to one man with instructions to take eight men with him, he to use his judgment in the selection. When this was made known to the crowd they surrounded him, each to urge himself to be taken along. The holder of the pass selected eight, who attempted to group themselves around him, and during the half hour of waiting they unceremoniously pushed and shoved each other in order to be taken along. After the holder of the pass had made his selection the others would not acknowledge such practice, and when the train came along about twenty made a dash for the smoking car and at the steps of the car they pushed and jostled each other and it seemed for a few minutes that it would result in a fisticuff. The train soon pulled out and those who had lost in the scramble had to again take up the weary and fruitless search for employment.

A visit to the neighborhood of the steel works owned by the Colorado Fuel and Iron Company, and the smelters owned by the Guggenheim interests reveals the fact that large numbers of men have been laid off at both places, and the condition of the employed has been made worse. Reports from the workers in the railroad yards are to the same effect—men laid off right and left.

But what need to reiterate the common and well known facts and experiences of the workers? There is one reason, and at this time it should be indelibly impressed upon the minds of the members of the working class, and that reason is that the capitalist press, is receiving a portion of the wealth stolen from the working class by the capitalists, and in return have in the past and will in the future practice every fraud upon the workers which will tend to keep the workingmen ignorant of real conditions existing, in the vain hope that the workers may not find the remedy for these evils.

The capitalist class has in the last few years realized that their press has been thwarted in its efforts to keep the workers ignorant, and to-day they realize, like the church, that their influence is on the wane.

Readers, let me ask you, do you know what the remedy is? If you do, then let me state it for the benefit of those who do not: Let the working class consciously organize to take from the capitalists the land upon which we work and all the tools with which we work—that is, the mills, mines, factories workshops, banks, mints, department stores, telegraph and telephone lines, railroad and steamship lines—in other words, all that wealth which the workers have produced, and which the capitalists have stolen, let the workers take possession of and hold only for the producers. How can this be done? Let all the workingmen, regardless of his trade or skill, join the Industrial Workers of the World and cement themselves into one compact union. Let them also unite on the political field under the banner of the Socialist Labor Party to face the capitalist enemy and hasten the day when the drones of society will be unceremoniously locked on the outside, until they, too, can feel the pangs of hunger and the wintry blasts of winter, till they plead to be taken in as useful members of society.

Workingmen, you and I and hundreds of thousands of other workingmen will wearily tramp the highways and byways, ill-clad and hungry, and go from bad to worse if you do not face about and dispossess the capitalist class entirely from its power. It rests only with the working class.

Charles Rogers.

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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1907.

The hope of republics lies in stubborn minorities.—DE TOCQUEVILLE.

IN AID OF THE ENVOYS.

The President has sent envoys to Goldfield to inquire into the troubles there and determine whether the presence of the Federal troops is necessary. In aid of the investigations which the Presidential envoys will set on foot we respectfully submit to them that each purchase a copy of the "Goldfield Gossip," a mine-owners' paper, Vol. III, No. 3, dated December, 1907—fresh enough, no doubt. On the fifth page of that issue, beginning at the bottom of the second, and running over to the third column, they will find an article entitled "Labor and its Grievances." The article is here literally reproduced:

"A couple of weeks ago there was a shooting affair on Main Street, in the course of which, as usual, an innocent bystander got it—this time in the leg; and Vincent St. John, one of the parties in the affair of the shooting, in fact the man who was shot at, escaped with a couple of slight flesh wounds. This man St. John is a stormy petrel; wherever he is there is trouble, either active or brewing. He was the leader among the Socialist element of the Western Federation of Miners here during our troubles last spring, when you remember our stocks were broken in price, and the credit of our mines badly damaged. Mr. St. John will clearly understand that we have no personal grievance against him when we say that it was A GREAT PITY THAT THE MAN HOLDING THE GUN IN THE RECENT SHOOTING DID NOT HAVE SENSE ENOUGH TO HOLD IT STRAIGHT. Speaking as one who puts the public good foremost in his argument always, Mr. St. John will pardon us for remarking that HE WOULD LOOK MUCH BETTER DEAD. We would add that we should be more than pleased to attend his funeral and to see that the last sad rites were decently observed. We will even go a step further and assure him that IN THE HOPED-FOR EVENT OF ANYTHING SUDDEN IN THE SHAPE OF A BULLET OVERTAKING HIM we will cheerfully subscribe for a wreath for the coffin, and COUNT IT MONEY WELL SPENT."—The underscorings are our own.

At first we were of the opinion that the Federal troops should be recalled from Goldfield. No doubt that the pretence under which they were asked for was false. The miners are orderly. The only disorder, that of presuming to issue private money by the mine-owners, could be easily quelled by a Federal constable and the arrest of the mine-owning criminals. Now, however, it must be admitted the affair presents itself under a different aspect. Criminal though the issue of private money is, the language of the article quoted above presents an even more serious issue.

The article quoted above is not a letter coming from some crack-brained correspondent, and slipping into the paper by accident, as happens occasionally. The article is an editorial utterance, cool, calm, deliberate. It breathes murder at every letter; it incites to murder; it raises vistas of immunity and reward to professional assassins. When such language is held by the leading organ of a community the fact is clear that the said community is under the rule of Bill Sykes and Co. The Constitution guarantees to every State a "republican form of government." The Nevada form of government is that of brigands, literally. In a case like that there is work for Federal troops. Their duty is to build a cordon around the people who uphold, write, publish, and subsidize the "Goldfield Gossip." They are nothing but an organization of murderers, for murder. Where such vermin holds sway the bonds of society are snapped. Nevada has to be "reconstructed." The State has read itself outside of the pale of the Nation. It is in rebellion. The rebels should be put where they belong—at the chain gang, where their murderous instincts may be chastened by hard work.

CHICOPEE AND HOLYOKE.

"John J. Kelly," says the Springfield, Mass., "Union" of last week, "the Socialist candidate was simply slaughtered, his vote being but 448 as compared with a complimentary vote of 1040 he received last year. Mr. Kelly's defeat, coupled with the defeat of the two Socialist candidates for aldermen, removes the Socialist party entirely as a factor in the city." In explanation to The People readers it should be stated that the article above quoted refers to the recent municipal election in Chicopee.

A Holyoke, Mass., correspondent, commenting upon the Chicopee election, says:

"These Chicopee Socialists have strained with might and main to get some of their members elected, and after talking themselves hoarse about 'Good Government,' are thrown down by the very people who helped to elect them. In Holyoke they allowed themselves to be made a political ash-barrel for sore-head Democrats, who had no candidate of their own, the Socialist party candidates made ineffectually a hysterical reform campaign as a bid for a big vote—which failed to materialize, after all."

In order to judge a principle of action, it is necessary to shut the eye to the corrupt barnacles that fasten upon it. Leaving aside the corruptionists who foregather in the Socialist party as mere incidents, it must be admitted that honestly-intentioned people give the party its standing. What are the principles of these? Their principles are:

1. "Get there—the political government."

Next, in order to get there—

2. "Become fly-paper."

That these principles proceed from warm hearts is unquestionable; that they proceed from unequipped minds is equally certain.

The aim of Socialism is the overthrow of the rule of the Capitalist Class. With such an aim before it, it is the merest folly to believe the class that is to be overthrown can be circumvented. The Capitalist Class know exactly that Socialism means their dethronement. Accordingly, any method or policy looking to seeming innocent misses its point.

On the other hand, the aim of Socialism being the overthrow of the reign of Capitalism, Socialism means the Glad Tidings to the Working Class. With such a mission, it is the worst policy possible for the Socialist to try and look innocent. In the measure that he does so, he alienates the very element upon which the triumph of Socialism depends.

Accordingly, a policy of dropping the sound revolutionary propaganda of Socialism is a double edged sword, both edges of which wound and thereby defeat Socialism. It does not throw the Capitalist Class of their guard, while it throws sand into the eyes of the proletariat, deadens their revolutionary instinct, and keeps them from rallying around the banner of Socialism.

The Chicopee and Holyoke experiences should be classic illustrations.

WAS THAT DOCTOR'S NAME FUNSTON?

The despatches from the West announce that Gen. Funston is hurrying to Goldfield because he "expects trouble" there to-day.

The story is told of a Connecticut Yankee, whose profession at home was peddling wooden nutmegs, deciding that the West was a fitter theatre for his talents, and medicine a fitter object for his professional attention. To the West he went—away beyond the Mississippi. There he hung out his shingle, announcing to the villagers that he was a physician. That same night he was awakened out of bed by impatient rappings at his street door. When he opened he saw before him an excited man. The visitor informed the doctor that his little boy was taken ill, and he wanted the doctor to come with him on the spot.

"What's the matter with the boy?" queried the doctor.

"He has small pox!" exclaimed the father stamping impatiently.

"Oh!" replied the doctor with a look of contempt. "I don't know anything about small pox. But you give the little cuss this," handing him a little vial. "That will throw him into fits. Then send for me. I've graduated on fits."

Gen. Funston, hurrying to Goldfield in order to quell the trouble that he is justified in expecting, seeing that the trouble will be wholly of his own making, is a performance of a piece with that of the Yankee physician who held himself ready to hurry to the assistance of people that his own drugs threw into fits.

There is no "trouble" in Goldfield that a Federal secret service man, employed to corral issuers of false money, could not handle singlehanded. He would find no lack of evidence to swear out a bench warrant against the members of the Goldfield Mine Owners' Association; and he could easily muster up the requisite posse to conduct the delinquents to the nearest Federal District Court. Outside of that "trouble," there is none—none to quell, none to prevent. But, as in the case of the boy, who did not have fits and was first to be thrown into fits, in order that the physician who had graduated on fits could quell the trouble, Goldfield, peaceful Goldfield, is to be thrown by Gen. Funston into the fits of disorder and tumult; and the fit being on, the expert fittist, who has graduated on just such sort of things, will then "suppress the trouble."

All tragedy has its humorous side. Of such contradicting elements is made up the drama of human life—and infinitely more so the drama of the social struggle between the Capitalist Class and the Working Class, the former to uphold a social system that Civilization has pronounced against; the latter to establish the Reign of Peace, where he who works shall live, and he who can, but won't, shall be free to die according to all variations of his individualism.

STRAUS AND LABOR.

The "Flashlights of the Amsterdam Congress" make mention of a conversation that Bebel quoted in Amsterdam between himself and Marx, in the course of which, answering to the question, How do you account for the backwardness of the Movement in Great Britain, despite the country's opportunities? Marx answered: "Indeed things would be different here, were not the British capitalists so peskily shrewd: they deaden the Labor Movement by corrupting its leaders. Had Marx lived until these days of Oscar S. Straus, Secretary of the Department of Commerce and Labor, he might have added: "And, in America, the capitalists are so over-confident in their power to deaden the Movement that they 'rub it in.'"

The Department of Commerce and Labor is a new Department. It is one of the "concessions" to Labor. Mr. Gompers' cry "Labor is not represented in the Administration!" was a cry welcome to capitalist officialdom. Whenever Labor, deadened by the Gompers dope, sets up a cry, it is immediately used as the opportunity to promote the interest of the capitalist—either his pockets, or his taste for displayfulness. The Gompers cry was hearkened. Thereupon a new Department was proposed, in which Labor was to be "considered." The dull Gompers immediately began to nurse hopes of a cabinet position. The Department was established. The "Labor" in it was blanketed by the word "Commerce," and a full-blooded capitalist was put in charge. The present incumbent, Mr. Straus, caught the spirit of the place, and he has improved upon it.

Mr. Straus has schemed a scheme according to which there is to be a "Council" attached to his Department. The Council is to aid him in performing his functions. Now—of whom is the "Council" to consist? The Department is called Department of Commerce and Labor. Is the "Council" to consist of a mixture of capitalists and Laborites, after the fashion of the Civic Federation? Not at all. The word "Labor" on the name of the Department has been thrown into such utter "innocuous desuetude" by the word "Commerce," that Labor is not to be considered even in appearance, as on the Civic Federation. The whole "Council" is to consist of merchant princes, with the roulette expert Gustave H. Schwab at the head of the procession!

In America not even a bare bone is any longer thrown at Labor. The smell of a bone suffices. And upon the strength of the smell of the bone the capitalists furnish themselves with some new offices, some more glorification.

FRED BRUMMER.

On November 12th Comrade Fred Brummer, of Section Erie County, Socialist Labor Party, who to all outward appearances was in the best of health, suddenly dropped dead.

In the death of Comrade Brummer Section Erie County has lost a valued member; he was one of the younger comrades, and was ever to the front in the fight for the emancipation of his class.

We, Section Erie County, deeply regret his loss.

Joseph Ball,
E. Hauk,
M. Fuasser.
—Committee.

WILL KILLING BE THE NEXT? PREVENT IT!

President Theodore Roosevelt has dispatched United States troops to Goldfield and other mining camps in Nevada. It was done by request of the "Mine Owners' Association," although all citizens of the district are agreed that there was no necessity for the obedience of the President to the orders of the corporations. There was no disorder, no violence, no rioting—the mine workers only protested against the illegal and criminal acts of the mine owners who paid the mine workers in valueless scrips which they had issued through the banks they control, in direct violation and defiance of the law of the United States of America.

President Roosevelt, without ordering an investigation, made himself an accessory to an organized conspiracy to bid defiance to the laws of the land, although it is really an attempt by the mine owners to crush the mine workers' organizaton with the aid of the executive officers of the country and force the wealth producers to accept the humiliating terms of the oppressors.

These troops may be used, as so often before, to shoot down innocent men and women, and establish similar conditions as have disgraced the stars and stripes when they were hoisted over the bull pens of Coeur d'Alene and Cripple Creek.

Don't allow a repetition, comrades of the workshops! It lies in your power to prevent it.

Raise your voice of protest; prepare for action!

Mass protest meetings should be called at once.

Wherever there are a few workers organized in the Industrial Workers of the World, they should start the campaign of resistance at once by calling upon all organizations of workers that claim to advocate the class interests of the proletarians, and inviting them for concerted action and co-operation.

Pack the halls with the throngs of protesting toilers. Let your voice be heard in the halls of the White House in Washington, D. C. Demand the withdrawal of the troops.

Remember that you may be next! Never forget that the mine and town workers of Goldfield are engaged in a conflict against a criminal group of law-breaking capitalists. Get busy now.

If the lives of workers be sacrificed in this conflict, it will be your fault, too, as you have the power to stop further criminal acts on the part of the mine owners and their allies, including the President of the United States.

Rally to the support of the mine and town workers of Goldfield, Nevada.

Wm. E. Trautmann,
General Sec'y.-Treas.
Headquarters, Industrial Workers
of the World.
212 Bush Temple, Chicago, Ill.

THE MOVEMENT ABROAD.

Germany.

The Prussian conference has been held under the presidency of Singer. A new organization was determined for the Prussian comrades in order to better help forward the agitation in favor of Adult Suffrage in Prussia. Hitherto the Party Executive of the entire party has been the executive body for Prussia which comprises, as may not be known, something like two-thirds of the German Empire in population and area. Now it was proposed by some comrades to set up an entirely new organization, with a new executive for Prussia. But this was rejected, as it would practically reduce the central executive to nullity, and moreover was not required. On the other hand, it was decided to appoint a consulting committee to work with the executive in Prussian matters.

An interesting discussion was opened by Dr. Arons and Edward Adler, who, in two very able papers, showed up the true character of the Prussian policy and the necessity of a change. Dr. Arons pointed out among other things that the Prussian state is the biggest employer in the world and showed how the open voting enabled them to practically force their employes to vote as they wished. The discussion showed how keenly was felt the necessity for reform, but so long as such large numbers of workers even yet remain politically under the control of the Clericals any action of the party must be doomed to failure in view of the cowardice of the bourgeois parties. Dr. Arons showed clearly that it was due to the Liberals as much as anybody that the three-class system still remains in Prussia, as, at a time when they had actually an overwhelming majority in the Landtag, in the seventies, they voted for the postponement of the question on grounds which were obviously a mere excuse. Happily there is reason to know that the Catholic workers are daily coming more and more over to our side, so that this reform cannot be long delayed; and with that the reaction in Germany—nay, in Europe—will have lost their surest prop.

MONEY—WHAT IS IT?

"Money is not wealth at all.

"Money is a mere makeshift—a scheme invented by men to make trading easy.

"Money represents real wealth, that is all. It is a token, like a soda water check in a drugstore."

Thus, during the height of the still rumbling financial panic, spake the sapient bourgeois reformer and dark horse aspirant for Democratic presidential nomination in 1908, Wm. R. Hearst, through the mouth of his paid editorialist on the New York Journal.

A greater number of heels-over-head errors on a vital problem of economics—a problem, moreover, thrown into full illumination by the happenings of the day—it would be hard to find elsewhere compressed into so small a compass. Every statement there made is false and fatally so; for (1) Money IS wealth; (2) it is NOT a mere makeshift; (3) it is not the mere REPRESENTATIVE of wealth; and (4) it is NOT a "token, like a soda water check in a drug store."

(1) Money is wealth. Wealth consists of commodities. Commodities possess value because of and in proportion to the amount of socially necessary labor requisite to their production. A storehouseful of shoes or of pocket handkerchiefs possesses value and is wealth. It does so just because it is the crystallized form of a certain amount of the source of all wealth, viz., social labor. Gold requires for its production, also, social labor. The very fact that it has almost universally been chosen as the standard monetary metal is due to the further fact that it contains crystallized in it a GREAT DEAL of social labor, hence it concentrates a great deal of value into a small space, and becomes a convenient medium of exchange. The present relative rise in the prices of commodities, due to the decreasing value of gold, due in turn to cheaper methods of gold production, also proves that money has value, and as such, is wealth. The same as pocket handkerchiefs or shoes, gold embodies in itself social labor, and necessarily therefore is wealth. Indeed, a storehouseful of gold would be worth many hundred times more than the same storehouseful of either of the two commodities named. How absurd, then, to say that money is not wealth!

(2) Money is not a mere makeshift. To say so is utterly to ignore the history of money and of commerce. As well say the trigger to a gun or the shaft to an ocean liner is a "makeshift" because without them neither the gun nor the steamship could perform its function. Triggers and shafts had both to be invented before the Colt's revolver or the Lusitania could become a possibility. Money had first to be invented before the modern world of commerce could have grown up. Makeshifts are temporary things to be cast aside when the need for them has passed, without involving therewith other great and voluminous changes. Money can not be cast aside without at the same time casting aside the present economic system of private production for private gain. How both of these may be done together will be indicated further on. But under present conditions money is no makeshift. It is part and parcel of the system.

(3) Money is not the mere representative of wealth. As shown before under (1), it IS wealth, and it is nonsense to say a thing "represents" itself. What money does represent is other commodities, but it is no less wealth than they are, nor are they any more wealth than it itself. Money is used as a measure of value, true; but that is only a case of stating diffuse wealth, embodied in cheaply produced commodities (kerchiefs or foot-gear), in terms of concentrated wealth, embodied in a dearly produced commodity (gold); it is not stating wealth in terms of something that is not wealth. The paper money in common use may perhaps be thought to "represent" wealth. In the strict meaning of this article, this is not so. Every paper bill in circulation bears on its face the legend, if it be a coin certificate: "This certifies that there have been deposited in the Treasury of the United States (so many) silver (or gold) dollars, payable to the bearer on demand"; or, if it be a bank note, "The —— —— National Bank will pay to bearer on demand (so many) dollars." These statements mean that the slip of silk fibre paper which bears them, and which was issued merely for convenience in carrying and using, has behind it an actual coin dollar for which it supposedly can be redeemed, and on the basis of which it, the paper dollar, is able to circulate and figure in exchange. All the time the paper dollar is ostensibly performing purchases, it is really the coin dollar lying in the U. S. Treasury or National Bank vaults which is doing the work. The paper dollar is merely a convenient symbol or voucher for the other's existence; the paper dollar "represents" wealth only in so far as it stands for the coin dollar. The coin dollar does not "represent" wealth, it IS wealth. Hence it can not properly be said of money that it merely "represents" real wealth.

(4) Money is not a "token, like a soda water check in a drug store." The soda water check may be of paper, pewter, or celluloid. It has no intrinsic value at all commensurate with its power of procuring soda water. Money, on the other hand, has and must have, as has already been shown, intrinsic value of its own, due to its concentrated embodiment in itself of social labor. Without this, it would not be unquestioningly and universally accepted, as it is. Were money as cheaply producible as the paper, celluloid or pewter soda checks, no one would be wiling to accept it in exchange for his laboriously produced commodities; nor could he legally be compelled to. Money, therefore, can not be a "token" merely; it must be hard, actual wealth, whether in gold or silver; paper only figures by being the official proxy for one of these.

But why, it will be asked, can not money without intrinsic value be made to circulate, the same as the intrinsically valueless soda checks? The reason is that the same concern, the drug store, which issues the soda check for value received (i. e., the nickel or dime paid for it), stands ready to redeem it with a specified equally valuable quantity of cooling liquor. IT IS THE SAME CONCERN WHICH ISSUES THE FIAT CHECK AND WHICH STANDS READY TO REDEEM IT. In present individualistic society, no capitalist would be fool enough to honor with goods a fiat check issued by any other capitalist. He would be giving his valuable goods for a valueless piece of paper, which he could never get the value of his goods back for. Value-ful money is a necessity of private production, a sort of protection for each capitalist against being swindled by all the others. Before intrinsically valueless money can be made to circulate, a condition must first be established in which it is the same concern which both issues the money and is ready to redeem it. Not until the coming of Socialism, when the people collectively shall control industry, can such a condition be established, and the taker of such money be guaranteed that it shall be good. Not until then, accordingly, can intrinsically valueless money come into use. Then, in the form of the "time-labor checks" of the Socialist Republic, it will be the only money necessary. But to speak of "token" money before that condition arrives, is to speak of mammalian life on the earth before the land was divided from the waters.

GERMAN SOCIALISTS OF CLEVELAND, O., PROTEST.

Cleveland, O., December 12.—At a well attended meeting of the German Branch, S. L. P., Cleveland, O., held on Sunday, December 8, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

"Whereas, The mine workers of Goldfield, Nevada, have been forced into a conflict with the mine owners by brutal oppression on the part of the latter; and

"Whereas, The strongly organized mine workers of Goldfield have incurred the hatred of the mine owners by the manner in which they, the mine workers, have always defended their rights and have offered energetic resistance to every attempt on the part of the mine to reduce their wage slaves to the stage of lowest degradation and that, therefore, the mine owners long since have intended and striven to replace the organized mine workers by unorganized and therefore cheaper and more submissive labor; and

"Whereas, The mine owners paid their employes in valueless scrip, mainly as a pretext for the final breach, expecting as a matter of course that their employes would refuse the acceptance of such wild-cat money; and

"Whereas, The Governor of the State of Nevada, as a willing tool of the mine owners, has requested the President of the United States to dispatch soldiers to the strikefield in spite of the fact that the Sheriff of the district has declared such a measure absolutely unnecessary, there being no reason whatsoever for such action; and

"Whereas, President Roosevelt promptly granted this request and at once dispatched troops to Goldfield; and

"Whereas, The mine owners and their political lackeys, in nation and state, have, by this measure, demonstrated their intention to stifle in blood the just strike of the mine workers; and

"Whereas, The case demonstrates once more that the powers of Government, national and state, are nothing but servile tools of the brutal exploiting class; therefore be it

"Resolved, That we protest against the sending of troops to Goldfield and brand this step as a crime against the rights of the working class; and be it

"Resolved, That we call upon the working class to rally under the banner of Socialism and its political party, the Socialist Labor Party, and put an end once for ever to the outrages committed by the exploiting class against the rights of the workers; and be it finally

"Resolved, That we declare ourselves fully in sympathy and solidarity with the striking mine workers of Goldfield, Nevada, and wish them a speedy and complete victory in their just fight."

UNCLE SAM AND BROTHER JONATHAN.

BROTHER JONATHAN—Don't you think the Socialist Labor Party is somewhat intolerant?

UNCLE SAM—No, why?

B. J.—I'll tell you. It calls the labor leaders fakirs because they won't join the S. L. P.

U. S.—Where did you get that from?

B. J.—That is what the labor leaders say.

U. S.—But their saying does not make it so.

B. J.—But does not the S. L. P. call them fakirs?

U. S.—Whom? These professionals of the pure and simple stripe?

B. J.—Yes.

U. S.—It does.

B. J.—Well, there you have it. They are called fakirs because they won't join the party.

U. S.—Not at all; that is not the reason. There is a mighty good reason to call them fakirs; their not joining the S. L. P. would be no reason.

B. J.—And what is the reason?

U. S.—There are workingmen who actually still honestly indulge the superstition that the union and the strike and boycott are enough for all practical purposes; many a sincere worker holds the view; the blows he has received are not yet hard enough, and you know how difficult it is to rid oneself of a superstition if it once has taken hold.

B. J.—Yes, indeed, I do.

U. S.—Such workers and their leaders are looked upon rather with pity than contempt by the Industrial Unionists or Socialists; these never call them fakirs, but visionaries and illusionists.

B. J.—Well, then, whom do the Industrial Unionists call fakirs?

U. S.—But there are a good many others who have long since dropped the pure and simple superstition; who know that the industrial struggle or strikes and boycotts alone is not sufficient and that the workers must cast their ballots against both capitalism and capitalist candidates, but who, nevertheless, fight the S. L. P. with furious rage.

B. J.—Are these the ones the Socialists call fakirs?

U. S.—Yes, but not simply because they fight the S. L. P.

B. J.—For what other reason?

U. S.—People may entertain an honest conviction that, although a certain labor party has a correct platform, still it is constituted in a manner that they object to, and is led by people whom they sincerely mistrust.

B. J.—You should not call them fakirs for that.

U. S.—No, indeed! So long as they are honest in such convictions, they are no fakirs. But the test of their honesty is that they set up their own labor party, organized in such a way as they may choose, and led by such men as they may trust. That is the test. The workers who would do that are no fakirs; but those are fakirs who, while calling themselves Socialists, and while objecting the S. L. P., nevertheless deliberately abstain from setting up their own party. Such fellows are all-around fakirs; they prove that they are dishonest in their opposition to the S. L. P., that they do not mean well by labor; that they are on the make even if they have to play into the hands of the capitalists by trading on their class.

B. J.—Such people surely are fakirs.

U. S.—And such are the "labor leaders" whom the Industrial Unionists and Socialists hold up with a pitchfork to the well merited execration of the working class.

The total immigration from Japan during the year ending June 30 was 30,226, an increase of 16,391 over the previous year. These figures should give point to the declamation of all those who believe that the best way to help the "backward" Jap is to give a helping hand to the capitalist policy of inciting racial conceit, and breaking through the Marxian motto, Proletarians of all countries, unite!

The People is a good broom to brush the cobwebs from the minds of the workers. Buy a copy and pass it around.

CORRESPONDENCE

[Correspondents who prefer to appear in print under an assumed name will attach such name to their communications, besides their own signature and address. None other will be recognized.]

AN APPRECIATION OF BALL'S WORK.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—I am glad to see the announcement re the rest of the Sue books. Good luck to Ball! Through him the literature of the Proletariat will indeed get a "boost."

Harry Gunn.

Schenectady, N. Y., December 12.

THE WORK THAT TELLS.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—Section Tacoma, Wash., has pledged 10 subs to the Weekly People per month. The field looks good and the comrades of this section will concentrate their energies towards the sale of literature and securing of subs. This is our program.

S. Gerard.

Tacoma, Wash., November 20.

AS TO UNITY.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—A great deal is being said of Unity. We of the S. L. P. cannot unite with the S. P., as at present constituted, as ,to do so, is to compromise, to stultify our principles and confuse them with those of the S. P. and A. F. of L. We should teach the working class through the distribution of our literature and the circulation of our papers. Through the laying of a solid foundation in this manner, a unity worthy the name is assured. Compromise nothing and effective unity will come all the sooner.

Charles Fallath.

Elizabeth, N. J., December 11.

AN APPRECIATION OF THE PEOPLE.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—Not getting my paper last week I looked at the wrapper and find that it is time to pay again; but this time I am out of work, like most of the molders here. Still I must have the paper and send 25 cents for three months; when that time is up I hope to be able to renew. So long as The People is square I will support it and the Socialist Labor Party.

F. H. F.

Syracuse, N. Y., Dec. 10.

THE OPEN LETTER TO CONGRESS.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—The Daily People of to-day, containing the Open Letter to Congress on the Presidential Violation of the Constitution in calling out the regular army to FORCE the miners of Goldfield to accept for wages the ILLEGAL scrip issued by the mine owners, should be given the widest possible circulation. Comrades who still have the paper should send it with the Open Letter marked to the Congressmen of their respective districts. The Open Letter would make an excellent leaflet to circulate just now.

Vigilant.

Brooklyn, N. Y., December 10.

NEWS FROM AND WORK OF ENLIGHTMENT IN CANTON.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—Prosperity is hitting the workers of Canton right and left. Lay-offs, shutdowns and wage reductions are the order of the day. But no doubt it's the same way everywhere.

I am very glad to learn that Comrade Ball's decision assures now the publication of the Sue books. I haven't found a person yet who has read one of the series, but wants the rest. We have sold 12 full sets of the 20 received from the Labor News and the balance are promised. As soon as they are gone we'll order more.

John H. T. Juergens.

Canton, O., Dec. 10.

HOW SIGNAROWITZ'S PLAN WORKED.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—Inclosed find $10, my contribution to The People Xmas Box. You will recollect that some two or three months ago I set forth my plan of raising this money which was the doing without some little things and putting the money in the little box that I made for the purpose. I hope that others tried this plan and that as a result The People Xmas Box will be larger than ever before. I for one realize that our Press must be maintained by ourselves and that to the extent that we uphold it will it be serviceable.

In closing I may say that it is not too late for some of the comrades to try my little plan of small economies for the benefit of the Party Press. I shall start now for next year's Xmas Box.

Fraternally,

Geo. Signarovitz.

Brooklyn, December 10.

CARWORKERS WANT THE PEOPLE.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—Enclosed find six subs to the Arbeiter 3 to the Arbetaren and 24 to the Weekly People.

This concludes my work in Minneapolis, so I will leave to-morrow for St. Paul and take up the work there for another week.

We have not been able to hold any more street meetings on account of the cold weather which has set in again.

Smith and I secured 16 subs in the Milwaukee railway shops. This is just two less than the number secured by Miss Flynn and myself in the Northern Pacific shops at St. Paul. As there are a large number of men working in both plans, our new readers after getting posted will have an excellent opportunity, which I hope they will take advantage of in doing good work for the S. L. P. and I. W. W.

Chas. Pierson.

St. Paul, December 4.

A WORD ON HISTORY AND CONDITIONS IN NORTH DAKOTA.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—I received the copy of Lissaragay's Commune I ordered and am highly pleased with it. Much of my knowledge of history has been derived from bourgeois sources and, on that account, seems to be erroneous. As fast as my slender means permit I intend buying books wherein the truth is not perverted in the interests of the beurgeois.

It is needless to say that I am fully in accord with the Socialist Labor Party, having conquered my prejudices against it. I am also an admirer of the I. W. W. and believe in the principles upon which it is based. But this seems to be the extent of my activity. There is nothing in this burg to arouse enthusiasm or to warm workingless sentiment into action. The soul-chilling, sluggish A. F. of L. has full sway here, running what little workingclass spirit there is into the ground.

Fred L. Snowball.

CONDITIONS IN THE MIDDLE WEST.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—Enclosed find a small contribution, the best I can do, to the Daily People Christmas Box. Had not "prosperity" struck the country so hard I could have done better in the way of a donation. Being a commercial traveler I am in a position to realize the gravity of the present industrial crisis.

Factories are located in practically every town along my route, and everywhere I find misery and starvation staring the working class in the face. Last week I was in Kenosha and Racine, Wis., and found most of the mills and factories closed or working but two or three days a week. To-day I was in Pullman and Kensington, Ill., and in these not a factory of any size is running. At Elgin the same condition exists, and that is the case generally throughout the Middle West.

To cap the climax, the workingmen who are fortunate enough to find a master cannot get their cheques cashed, the banks in many cases refusing to honor them. The capitalist class robs the worker in the shop and outside, too.

Talk Industrial Unionism to these slaves and frequently you will be answered that they are satisfied with Gompersism; that only that form of organization will solve the problem. Nevertheless, light is breaking through the black clouds of ignorance.

Keep up the fight, ye stalwarts. The class struggle rages ever more fiercely as the days go by, and only by spreading the light through our press can we reach that vast portion of the working class that no other press, neither the pure and simple Socialist nor the reactionary trade unionist can attract. Circulate THE PEOPLE wherever possible.

D. Rudnick.

Oak Park, Ill., Dec. 9.

WHAT IS TO BE DONE?

To the Daily and Weekly People:—All the indications seem to be that the unemployed problem is being rapidly precipitated. Lawson declares that the industrial depression has not yet really begun. The "Appeal to Reason" says that the present panic is but a pleasant panic to what will soon confront us. Dallas is not an industrial center, but the depression thus far here locally has already resulted in suffering to the working class. There have been evictions. Something like four thousand people have been thrown out of employment. Landlords are inexorable and grocers can extend no credit to the workless worker. In the meantime the workers are ignorant of what is hitting them, and helpless. If predictions are verified and the industrial crisis results in universally closing the industries, the wolf of starvation already upon many of us will be gnawing our vitals. The idea or conception of industrial organization has not yet permeated the working class so that rapid and systematized action might be taken for commandeering the means of production on a national scale, and the troops of a capitalist government stand ready to shoot the starving to death unless such action could be taken. Election time is so far off that to wait for it would be tantamount to suicide.

In view of these facts and the probable (it is past being hypothetical) case of realization of imminent need of intelligent concerted action—the question arises, what is the reasonable, the logical, plan to be adopted by the working class under the direction of Socialist (Labor Party) and Industrial Union organization tactics IMMEDIATELY.

I believe not only Socialists who understand something of what is involved, but the working class generally will welcome an intelligent outline of policy and tactics to be adopted in this (hypothetical?) emergency.

Word H. Mills.

Dallas, Texas, December 8.

CORNICE MAKERS AND THE VORWAERTS.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—On November 24, in the Jewish Vorwaerts appeared a declaration of the Roofers' and Cornice Workers' Union, written by an A. F. of L.-ite by the name of Shreibman, declaring that the I. W. W. was only a nest to catch members in, in order to press money out of them.

It should be made known what kind of a bunch these Roofers and Cornice Makers are, and why they were suspended by Building Trades' Local 95, I. W. W. They were organized under Sherman's reign and they imbibed a good deal of Sherman and A. F. of L. fake. As soon as they heard that the 2nd convention of the I. W. W. decided not to take any more than $2 initiation fees, and as $2 was not enough for their purposes, they contrived another scheme to get money. They instituted an "examination fee" of $3. If a member passes the examination, he pays in $3; if not, they take away from him $1 and tell him to go. When I found out this fake business I reported this to Building Trades Local 95. The officers of 95 tried their best to show the Cornice Workers that this meant demoralizing the working class, and not organizing, and that the I. W. W. wanted to organize the working class, and that it was not honest to take money from workingmen on such pretenses. But they did not care for all our talk, and kept on doing their dirty work until Local 95 was compelled to throw them out. When a committee of 95 went to take away the property which belongs to the I. W. W., they told us that they give the charter but no more, as the financial and minute books had been destroyed.

Then in the Vorwaerts declaration, Shreibman says that the I. W. W. doesn't teach its members. I for one can say that the I. W. W. is the only economic school where the wage slaves can learn the class struggle.

When I saw all the lies Shreibman gave out in the Vorwaerts, I wrote to the Vorwaerts, giving all the details of why the Cornice Workers were thrown out. The Vorwaerts printed not one word of my statement. The Vorwaerts, like nearly all the S. P. papers, is only too glad of some kind of opportunity to attack the I. W. W. with unfounded villification and slanders.

Abe Gurowitz.

Brooklyn, December 6.

A. F. OF L.'S TAIL BETWEEN ITS LEGS.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—At one time Local 64, I. W. W., had its headquarters in Union Temple, 26 South Washington ave., an A. F. of L. stronghold. They did not like our presence there; in fact, strongly resented it. The only way they could get back at us was by calling to their assistance Nelson and Bohlig, the landlords, by threats of boycotting their place of business. They, fully alive to their economic interests, inasmuch as the A. F. of L. people were a hundred to one of us, and spent most of their time loafing around the saloon and throwing their sweaty dollars across the bar, which was under the rooms used as headquarters by different A. F. of L. locals, while we, on the other hand, spent little or nothing for booze, on the pretense that they planned some improvements in the building and needed our room, gave us the usual ten days' notice to vacate.

We did so. Some of us were not clear as to the part our A. F. of L. "friends" played in our removal, but the following article, taken word for word from the November 28 issue of The Labor Review, the official sheet of A. F. of L. of the Twin Cities and the Northwest clears the atmosphere somewhat and shows where the shoe pinches:

"I. W. W. INVASION."

"It is developed that Minneapolis and St. Paul are principal points of attack just now by that strike breaking crew of malignants, known as the I. W. W. Already in Minneapolis there are four lodges, all located in the Union Temple, and their shameless organizer struts in and around the halls, nosing into open meetings of unions and making himself generally ubiquitous, obnoxious and unbearable, so much that it appears almost time for the unions, which have meeting nights there to consult their own best interest, either by moving out, or having the Industrial fakirs thrown into the streets by the landlord. These lodges of the I. W. W. have been organized at the behest of the Manufacturers' Association. Their literature is distributed at the shops conducted by members of this association, who at the same time distribute among their help copies of the local renegade labor sheet (The Bulletin) containing inane drivel relative to strikes and boycotts, that is now the merchantable commodity of that sheet. The I. W. W. was formed by malcontents and disreputable rascals who were summarily ejected from the unions, and is a strike breaking organization solely. Its primary purpose is not to elevate or benefit labor, but to sow seeds of dissension and disrupt and destroy organized labor generally. They are a clan of beetle-browed, ignorant self-seekers with whom decency is a crime; but such as they are capable of doing much injury here to organized labor, as they have done elsewhere, and the Trades and Labor Assembly might with great advantage to the same take official cognizance of their presence here and by systematic organization throughout the city render futile not only their efforts, but the exertions being made by the Manufacturers' Association and the Citizens' Alliance to gain them a foothold here."

The Labor Review is edited and distributed to the Blue Cross Brigade of 120 Corn Exchange.

George Nickerson.

Minneapolis, Minn., December 1.

A LETTER TO THE "NEW YORK TIMES."

To the Daily and Weekly People:—The enclosed letter was sent to the "New York Times." As it has not appeared I take it for granted that the editor of that paper doesn't like the tone of it.

Sam. A. Stodel.

[Enclosure.]

Editor N. Y. Times.—Dear Sir:—In the issue to-day you have a report from Goldfield, Nev., anent the situation there and in justice to the miners who are on strike in that district may I suggest a few corrections?

The mine owners have been using scrip in payment of wages to their employes. This is a violation of law in itself; but, not arguing as to the violation of the law, this scrip is accepted by the local storekeepers only at a discount of about twenty-five per cent.

The situation in brief is as follows: These men are mining gold, supposedly, and after mining this gold ,in accordance with the mine owners' logic, there is not sufficient gold to pay their wages; hence it follows that the amount of gold supposed by possible investors to be there is only visionary and does not really exist.

The companies operating throughout Esmeralda Co., Nev., have got to make some showing whenever prospective investors come around and therefore keep the miners at work, more as a bunco game than anything else. These stories as to high-grading, etc., are lies out of the whole cloth. This is done to lend color to the general scheme and attract the investors to buy stock in the various wild-cat mines; there is so much gold about that it is impossible to stop the men from stealing it, say the mining-stock boosters.

If they are going to employ non-union miners under the protection of U. S. troops, is it their intention to pay these men in cash? If so, why did they not do so to those who were already employed there? These are fair questions, I presume ,and deserving of answer.

To come to the personalities in this controversy, of which you make mention.

First ,the Sheriff notified the Governor that he was able to cope with the situation. There was absolutely no lawlessness in the camps that demanded national interference. The administration has to answer to the question of why in view of these facts were they so anxious to hurry troops into a peaceful community and place the same under martial law? Did the exigencies of the occasion warrant such proceeding?

You, furthermore, misrepresented the men prominent on the labor side of this trouble. Vincent St. John *was not* shot in a street duel. If a duel occurs, it is usually the case that both are armed. When St. John was shot he was unarmed and those acquainted with him know that he seldom, if ever, "packed" a gun. He was deliberately shot at, by a fellow-unionist it is true, and this man was afterward released on two thousand dollars bail, furnished by local members of the Mine Owners' Association.

The stories of the threatened blowing up of mines, electrical plants, etc., are on a par with the stories told by Mine Owners' Association detectives in the Colorado troubles. When the U. S. Government report was issued (Document 122—Report of the U. S. Bureau of Commerce and Labor on the Colorado Labor Troubles) it was discovered that most of the reported outrages were committed by detectives employed by the mine owners, and if there are any such occurrences in Goldfield and vicinity, the people of the country will know full well at whose door to lay the blame.

I trust that you will pardon the liberty I take in writing so large a letter, but realizing that you are anxious and willing to furnish your readers with as true a statement of things generally as is possible for you to do, I feel assured that you will permit this space in your columns. Thanking you, therefore, in advance for the courtesy I feel you will extend.

I am,

Yours respectfully,

Samuel A. Stodel.

4 West 118th Street, City.

THE RHODE ISLAND UNITY CONFERENCE.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—As an interested spectator of the Unity Conference meetings now drawing to a close, I shall try to give my impressions of them. Taken as a whole the meetings were interesting and instructive, and I cannot agree with those members of both parties who hold that it is all time lost because there seems to be little chance of the two parties coming to an agreement, at least not on the most important of the subjects, of the three under discussion, which are: Attitude toward Trade Unions, Party Press, and Discipline.

As far as the last question is concerned the S. P. resolution entitled "Local Autonomy" is not radically different from the amendment offered by the S. L. P. In fact, Leach (S. L. P.) embodied the meat of the S. P. resolution in his amendment, this being the last paragraph of the original resolution: "Resolved, that each branch, local, or state organization have jurisdiction over its own members and internal affairs, each being accountable to the superior bodies only in so far as conforming to the party constitutions, platforms and resolutions adopted according to party laws." If that is what the S. P. calls "local autonomy" I for one have no quarrel with it.

On the other two subjects under discussion, the S. P. took, to me at least, a peculiar position. As to the Party Press, most of their speakers insisted that their resolution proved that they were not against Party ownership, quoting this part of their resolution: "Whereas, an efficient Socialist press, responsive to the laws of the party and the desires of the membership is indispensable; therefore be it resolved, that as far as possible the party press should be owned and managed by the party organization and members, but no particular publication should be designated as an official exponent of Socialist philosophy or party laws." But a minute later the same man would be speaking in favor of *their* privately owned press (they always say *our* press) and against party ownership. There was nothing new advanced, not a single argument against the Party-owned press, but applies also to the privately owned press. No, I am wrong—one of the S. P. conferees did spring a new one. Said he, "There is something about this S. L. P. talk about Party ownership that I cannot understand; there is a nigger in the wood pile somewhere. How is in that the S. L. P., which always cries down co-operative schemes, Ruskin colonies, etc., advocates Party ownership? Is it not the same thing?" As it was time to adjourn he was not answered but the average S. L. P. man would have no trouble in answering that, one way or the other. This is how I should anwer it: "Yes, co-operative or colony schemes and Party ownership are alike in one important respect, *their environment;* and that which condemns all these one time pets S. P. experiments to a certain death, is bound to make it hard for a Socialist Press that hews to the line, and does not compromise. The sacrifices that S. L. P. men have made and are making for *their Press* shows that they fully understand this; and in the measure that class consciousness develops, so will the influence and circulation of a clear-cut revolutionary press."

At the close of the last meeting, one of the S. P. conferees ,speaking to the writer made the remark that "it was only by reading The People that he found out about rottenness in his party." His idea seemed to be that if something went wrong, and the press kept silent the trouble would be localized. The similarity between this idea and the actions of the A. F. of L. delegates at the Norfolk convention who allowed Gompers and his clique to reply to serious charges, by "hurrah boys" methods, is striking.

On the Trade Union position taken by the S. P., "Neutrality," facts and their arguments seemed to be at variance. The I. W. W. was all right, it was the most improved *form* of organization, but a Socialist party should remain neutral, it could not afford to antagonize the workers in other unions; craft unions would change and adapt themselves to changing conditions; in fact, were adopting the industrial form, —this was the tenor of their remarks. The fundamental difference between the A. F. of L. and the I. W. W., the revolutionary character of the latter, they never mentioned.

Although most readers of The People who have read the report of the meetings so far, may have formed the opinion that the S. P. of Rhode Island is not in line with the International movement, on account of their taking a neutral stand on the economic field, I want to say that such an opinion would be founded on wrong premises. The S. P. is not and cannot be neutral on the Burning Question; their neutrality is not even skin deep. At the last elections hand bills were passed around with the S. P. candidate for Governor, William H. Johnston's picture on them, and booming him as the only *Union* man running for this office. To conclude, the S. P. was guilty of a slight fib there, as W. J. Leach, the Socialist Labor Party candidate, is an active I. W. W. man.

F. Miller.

Lymansville, R. I., Dec. 8.

LETTER-BOX

OFF-HAND ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

NO QUESTIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED THAT COME IN ANONYMOUS LETTERS. ALL LETTERS MUST CARRY A BONA FIDE SIGNATURE AND ADDRESS.

R. V., GLOVERSVILLE, N. Y.—Without immigration the country would have become petrified. The old settlers tried hard to keep out the immigrant. Fortunately for the country, they failed. A dog in the manger policy has no chance.

J. R., WASHINGTON, D. C.—The history of President James O'Connell of the Machinists is one continuous series of impositions upon the machinists, keeping the blinkers clapped to their eyes—in the interest of O'Connell and of capitalism.

G. A. J., EAST ST. LOUIS, ILL.—It is a stroke of genius to call our friend "Adam the Devil," from the character in the "Iron Trevet." Adam the Devil was honest, he was sincere, he was truthful—but suffering had so incensed him that he became an unthinking being. So, indeed, with our friend. He has stopped reasoning. May he not sink below Adam the Devil, who became no man's fool, and become the dupe of schemers! That usually is the fate of unreason.

J. S., SACRAMENTO, CAL.—This office has no facilities for private answers. The Socialist Labor Party opposes all restriction of immigration.

P. V., NEW BADEN, ILL.—Suppose someone were to say: "You claim New York is on the Hudson? It is not. It can not be because Brooklyn is on Long Island, and, seeing that the Mississippi flows into the Gulf of Mexico, it follows that the Pacific Ocean is connected with the Atlantic Ocean through the Suez Canal. Suppose someone were to say that—can you imagine what impression his words would make upon us? Every statement is correct, but none has any connection with the other, nor do they jointly affect New York's being on the Hudson. So with your letter. Its separate allegations may be correct enough, but they do not connect, nor do they bear out the theory that a political party of Socialism is superfluous.

J. F. M., PALENVILLE, N. Y.—Read the answer over again carefully. As to the concrete instance with potatoes, we would answer:

If the price of potatoes goes up from 8 cents to 12, the reason may be one of many, or several together:

1. Either the supply has met with an unusual check; or,
2. The demand has gone up wonderfully; or,
3. The decline in the VALUE of gold has stimulated the rise of the PRICE.

Keep in mind: the answers in The People of November 17th and 24th dealt with the VALUE of the goods.

F. O., MILWAUKEE, WIS.—So far from becoming obsolete, the Marxian motto: "Proletarians of all Countries, Unite!" acquires greater force every day. International capital brings this about.

F. E. S., BRIDGEPORT, CONN.—The Kangaroos never had, or used, any arguments. Their methods were—"lie, lie again, lie some more; is the lie exposed? take no notice; just keep repeating the same lie; is the reasoning shown to be nonsense? take no notice; just keep on repeating the nonsense." In between they tried to punctuate their methods with "physical force"—the last argument of bankrupt intellects and got the worst of it. That sums up the Party's experience with the Kangaroo.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.—Articles should be written on only one side of the sheet. If written on both sides their chances of being published are materially diminished.

J. H. H. QUINCY, ILL.—1. The Single Tax was not "slurred" in the article referred to. It was exposed. An absurd economic statement, made by a distinguished Single Taxer at a Single Tax gathering and accepted with applause is no "individual" act.

2. The Single Tax theory is that the private ownership of land values is the present cause of involuntary poverty. Socialism denies this. The present cause of involuntary poverty is the private ownership of the monster capital, requisite to operate upon natural opportunities, and, without which, the land and all other natural opportunities are shut off, leaving them accessible only to the man equipped with the necessary capital—the capitalist.

P. L. Q., NEW YORK.—You misquote the Denver correspondents to The People. They did not report Haywood as having said, as you incorrectly claim: "The phrase 'Workingmen of all countries, Unite' is not applicable to America." What they reported was: "Pointing to the motto of International Socialism which adorned the wall, 'Workers of all Countries, Unite!' he [Haywood] exclaimed: 'I DON'T BELIEVE IN THAT, I NEVER BELIEVED IN THAT,'" etc. Whether Haywood made that statement, and, if he did, what the significance is of such an utterance, are matters for intelligent and courteous discussion. Intelligent and courteous discussion is out of the question if misquoting and billingsgate are indulged in. Such methods confuse, they do not enlighten. The capitalist and other press, hostile to the S. L .P., sufficiently attend to the work of confusing and disrupting. The People's columns—always open to facts and proper methods—are closed to the opposite.

A .B., PARIS, FRANCE.—Shall endeavor to find some poet-musician to translate the song into English.

V. W. O., WHITE HALL, ILL.—The article will be submitted to the N. E. C., which is to meet the first week in January, for its decision.

M. H. S., CHAMPAIGN, ILL.; MRS. E. C., PROVIDENCE, R. I.; E. C. H., VINEYARD HAVEN, MASS.; L. M. C., DETROIT, MICH.; R. D. McD., ST. JOSEPH, MO.; E. J. F., DULUTH, MINN.; L. J. H., LAFAYETTE, IND.; M. S., CHICAGO, ILL.; R. M. J., NEW YORK; M. L., ALEXANDRIA, IND.; C. S. SOMERVILLE, N. J.—Matter received.

JUST OUT!

The latest of the series of the Sue stories which we are publishing:

THE BRASS BELL

depicting the horrors of Caesar's invasion of Gaul, is now ready for delivery.

Cloth: 116 pages.

THE PRICE IS 50c SEND FOR IT

NEW YORK LABOR NEW CO.

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A DROP IN THE HOUSE.

Taken judiciously a one-half gallon jug of good whiskey or brandy will last a month. You can have it sent to any part of the country, packed in a box and shipped at my risk, for $1.50.

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***—Advt.

OFFICIAL

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Frank Bohn, National Secretary, 28 City Hall Place.
CANADIAN S. L. P.
National Secretary, W. D. Forbes, 412 Wellington Road, London, Ont.
NEW YORK LABOR NEWS CO.
(The Party's literary agency.)
28 City Hall Place, N. Y. City.

Notice—For technical reasons no party announcements can go in that are not in this office by Tuesday, 10 p. m.

N. E. C. SUB-COMMITTEE.

Regular meeting of Sub-Committee held December 8, 3.30 p. m., at 28 City Hall Place. Present: Seidel, Malmberg, Ferguson, Walters, McCormick, Weisberger, Teichlauf. Absent: Katz, Mueller, Wilton, Woodhouse, Romary, Vaughan. Chairman, Malmberg.

Minutes of previous meeting read and, after correction, adopted. Correction: In the minutes of Nov. 24, correcting minutes of Nov. 10, Neuhaus should have been mentioned voting against Seidel's resolutions on No. 10.

Bohn told of mistake reporting vote to N. E. C. in Arnold motion, "Shall Party continue Daily People, etc." Jacobsen's name given twice, should be, Jacobsen, Johnson.

Walters asked and was granted excuse for non-attendance at last meeting.

Correspondence:—From Eck, N. E. C. member, N. J., sending vote on Marek motion; also enclosing circular with his remarks on said motion sent by himself to N. E. C. men.

Bohn read and presented his answer to Eck's circular.

Seidel raised the point that this matter was out of the Sub-Committee's jurisdiction, matter being now before N. E. C. and concerning them, not Sub-Committee. Temporary chairman Ferguson ruled that letter was up before this committee as correspondence. Seidel appealed from decision, and stated as before said. Ferguson argued that, though Eck is debating before committee with N. E. C., yet he forwards under cover of a letter the subject matter of debate. Seeing it is addressed to N. E. C., we have to digest all which goes to N. E. C.

Vote on sustaining chair:—In favor: Malmberg, Neuhaus, Ferguson, Walters, McCormick, Weisberger, Teichlauf. Opposed: Seidel, Orange.

The following was then offered by Walters, seconded by Neuhaus:

"Whereas, The Sub-Committee, at its meeting of October 16, 1907, gave permission to the National Secretary to absent himself from his office several hours per day for the purpose of earning money to be used to defray the salary of his assistant;

"Whereas, The N. E. C. Sub-Committee did not presume that the National Secretary would cease drawing his salary and the salary of his assistant as directed by the N. E. C. at last meeting until such time as he had earned money outside the office;

"Whereas, Upon investigating, it develops that the National Secretary has as yet arranged to do no such outside work;

"Whereas, A circular sent out by Julius Eck conveys the impression that the National Secretary was earning monies by tutoring, and at the same time collecting his salary of $18, and the assistant, $9; therefore be it

"Resolved, That the N. E. C. Sub-Committee learns with amazement the contents of the letter sent out by the N. E. C. member of N. J., and distributed by him in large numbers to members of the Party."

In favor of resolution: Malmberg, Neuhaus, Ferguson, Walters, McCormick, Weisberger, Teichlauf. Opposed: Seidel, Orange. Motion Carried. Seidel and Orange voted "No" for reason that matter is not within province of Sub-Committee.

Bohn suggested that his answer to Eck's circular and Eck's letter be published for information of party membership. Motion by Seidel, seconded by Malmberg, "That the matter be filed." Moved to table motion. In favor: Neuhaus, Ferguson, Walters, McCormick. Opposed: Seidel, Orange, Malmberg, Weisberger, Teichlauf. Motion to table lost.

Moved by Ferguson, seconded by Walters, "That the Sub-Committee request the Editor that the circular letter of Eck and answer thereto by Bohn be published in The People. Yes: Orange, Neuhaus, Ferguson, Walters, McCormick, Weisberger, Teichlauf. No: Seidel, Malmberg. Motion carried. Seidel read following: "I hereby protest against Sub-Committee publishing the letter of Eck containing his remarks on Marek's motion, and protest against Sub-Committee's publishing of Bohn's answer thereto. I hold it is for the N. E. C., not for the Sub-Committee, to address the Party on this matter."

Moved by Teichlauf, seconded by Seidel, "That we recommend to the N. E. C. that the Eck circular letter and Bohn's reply thereto be published in The People." In favor: Seidel, Orange, Neuhaus, Ferguson, Walters, McCormick, Weisberger, Teichlauf. Opposed: Malmberg. Carried.

Seidel read his appeal to N. E. C. Decided to hold special meeting Dec. 16 to consider same.

Recess was taken at 7.45 for thirty minutes. Reconvened at 8.20.

Further correspondence:—From P. L. Quinlan, charging Editor of The People violated instructions of N. E. C. in publishing letter of K. Eisenberg, Oct. 15, and statement of Section Philadelphia, Nov. 19, claiming both matters were internal affairs and therefore were forbidden publication according to a motion passed by N. E. C.; said motion reading, according to Quinlan, something like this: "That no internal matters be published in Party press." Referred to Press Committee.

From O. Justh, Chicago, relating his trial there and asking for ruling, (1) Does he stand suspended despite irregularities accompanying his trial? Answer: Appeal must be made to State Convention or State membership. (2) Cannot N. E. C. overrule verdict, without him having to appeal? Answer: No.

From C. M. Spike, Nome, Al., application for membership. Proposed by C. Starkenberg. Moved by Weisberger, seconded by Orange, "That application be accepted and membership granted." Carried.

From E. J. Potier, New Orleans, relating affairs in Section; asked information and to have charter re-issued. Moved by Weisberger, seconded by Seidel, that information be sent and new charter granted. Carried.

From R. Strach, S. E. C., Texas, notice that expulsion of J. R. Robinson, Section Houston, was illegal. Filed.

From A Corporal, U. S. army, stating 33 per cent. of army deserted last two years; mostly young men and were good material for S. L. P. Filed.

From Jenning, Ill., remarks on Eck's circular. Though Bohn's statement as to wages did not tally, it was inconsequent. His position was that if Bohn was not good on typewriter, would be better to hire operator and allow National Secretary to teach outside.

From Gilhaus, Denver, reporting on movement out there; was about to leave for California, holding a few meetings en route. Filed.

Vote of N. E. C. on Richter motion, "That National Secretary draw up circular answering Gruelich." In favor: Reimer, Mass; Dowler, Tex.; Jenning, Ill.; Katz, Ind.; Jacobson, N. Y.; Wilke, Wis.; Marek, Conn.; Arnold, Kan.; Kircher, O.; Schmidt, Va.; Gilchrist, Pa.; Johnson, Cal.; Brearcliff, Wash.; Richter, Mich. None opposed.

Bohn reported on his Western trip:

"On September 26 I received a letter from W. D. Forbes, National Secretary, Canada, inviting either De Leon or myself to undertake a short tour through Canada. In a letter received October 9 this invitation was repeated. De Leon finding it impossible to accede to the wishes of the Canadian N. E. C., the Sub-Committee gave me permission (Nov. 10) to comply with the request. On October 2nd I received a letter from Eisenberg, organizer Cincinnati,, which read in part as follows: 'If you can come as far west as Ohio, by all means stop at Cincinnati. The I. W. W. is arranging a series of lectures and you must give us a Sunday. You will, of course, give the S. L. P. a day.' When Comrade Richter, member N. E. C., Mich., read of my proposed tour he wrote, under date Oct. 6, 'Glad to learn that you are going on a tour. That's just what's needed. Detroit will undoubtedly arrange a meeting for you. Can you give us a few dates?'

"I set dates and asked other Sections if they wished my services to fill out tour. In each case I plainly stated that I hoped no meeting would be arranged unless there was a certainty of its being successful and worth the effort and expenses. As the time to start approached the Canadian comrades discovered that it was impossible to proceed with the arrangements owing to the fact that it was found advisable to employ an I. W. W. organizer in Ontario and all their present strength must be united to that end. About the same time the organizer of Section Cleveland wrote: 'Although every member of the Section would like to see you here,' a festival already arranged would not permit date set by me to be used. Meanwhile other Sections had arranged or were arranging meetings. It was impossible to give up the tour. By wire I changed dates at Buffalo and Cincinnati. The letter from Pittsburg advising me of their acceptance of my offer was secured en route. Columbus was not heard from at all. Because my list of dates was incomplete and indefinite when I started, I left advertisements of meetings in The People to the sections.

"The Sub-Committee, when it gave me permission to arrange the tour, did so with the understanding that the sections would pay all expenses. There being absolutely no funds available for agitation, the committee could not have empowered me to use any such, even had it so desired.

"The receipts of the tour were $49; railroad fares amounted to $49.55. Board and meals to the extent of $12.50 and street car fares and telegraphing, amounting to $1.50, I paid out of my own pocket. Besides this there was, of course, not one cent for salary during the two weeks of my absence from the office.

"During the course of the trip I took occasion to visit my mother, sister and brother, staying from one to two days with each. I addressed nine meetings at Detroit, Cincinnati, Pittsburg, Erie, and Buffalo. Of these five were agitational and four organization meetings, besides taking one evening to attend a gathering of the Cleveland comrades and one evening to meet the members at Columbus, where, because the late organizer had changed his residence and did not receive my letter, I was unable to reorganize the section as I had hoped to do."

Financial Report, Nov. 16.—Receipts, $33.57; Expenses, $37.28. Nov. 23—Receipts, $26.60; Expenses, $13.63.

Hossack sent letter on matter of indebtedness desired by Sub-Committee; stated information partly in shape; that N. E. C. would soon meet; statement might be made part of report to that meeting. So agreed.

Meeting then adjourned.

Ed. Seidel, Recording Secretary.

N. E. C. SUB-COMMITTEE.

Special meeting held December 16, 28 City Hall Place. Present: Weisberger, Malmberg, Seidel, Ferguson, Wilton, Woodhouse, Teichlauf. Absent: Vaughan, Katz, McCormick, Walters, Muller, Neuhaus, Romary. Excused, Orange. Chairman, Ferguson.

Chairman stated that the object of the meeting was to act on appeal of Seidel and reply thereto.

A discussion took place as to sub-Committee's regularity in electing a committee on November 24 to take up commitee's side of case when no appeal in writing was before them.

Chairman declared election of committee on November 24 irregular.

Moved by Teichlauf, seconded by Woodhouse, "That a committee of three be elected to answer the appeal of E. Seidel." Carried.

Weisberger, Ferguson, Teichlauf, committee.

Meeting adjourned.

E. Seidel, Recording Secretary.

PENNSYLVANIA S. E. C.

A special meeting of the S. E. C. of Pa. was held December 8, '07, at 2109 Sarah street, Pittsburg, with Kephart in the chair.

Present, Weber, Gray, Herrington, Clark, Kephart, Clever, Rupp. Absent, Markley, Thomas, Male, Drugmand, Layton and McConnell.

The minutes of the previous meeting were adopted after a correction had been made; correction being that C. Rupp was appointed as one of the agitation committee and not J. A. Clark.

Correspondence: From H. Spittal, Section Erie, pertaining to Party affairs; P. Dreisel, Section Allentown, enclosing $6 for due stamps; R. Richardson, pertaining to agitation meetings at Rochester; T. Welding, Sections Allegheny Co. and Phila. enclosing their vote for seat of S. E. C. and State officers; D. C. Wismer, enclosing $2 for 11 due and 1 assessment stamps, also vote for seat of S. E. C. and State officers; O. T. Marowsky, of Grapeville, Pa., applying for membership at large also enclosing one dollar for due stamps; Mrs. Virginia Williams Otis, of Colorado, soliciting the S. E. C. of Pa. to act as one of the necessary three State Executive Committee's in instituting proceedings against De Leon and Bohn, to remove them from their offices which, she charges, they are using to swap and trade with the Haywood forces for their aggrandizement, and our everlasting disgrace. If permitted to remain in office until the next National Convention, they will have committed the Party to so much political chicanery that it can never be redeemed, and we can't expect to be judged any better than they if we remain silent to their crimes. Mrs. Otis also states that, as she believes the S. E. C. is inclined to question De Leon's and Bohn's dictatorship, that we take this matter up with the S. E. C. of Colorado. This letter was written on her own authority; F. Bohn, pertaining to Party affairs, national auditing committee's report of moving fund, and due stamps ordered.

On motion the correspondence was received, acted upon, and filed.

On motion the secretary was instructed to anwer Mrs. Otis's letter, and inform her that we are not questioning De Leon's and Bohn's dictatorship, that our attitude relative to the Haywood incident was made known at that time, and that we will not take any action in the matter at this late date, as the National Convention will handle the affair.

On motion the secretary was instructed, to notify all sections and members at large that the S. E. C. has been informed, unofficially, that J. A. McConnel, who was elected National Comitteeman, has been expelled from the S. L. P. by Allegheny Co. Section, the charges being of scabbing and conduct unbecoming a Socialist, and that F. Weber has been instructed to act as our National Committeeman until such time as the McConnell affair has been decided.

In view of the fact that an error was made by the S. E. C. in issuing a call to the membership of this State to nominate candidates for state committeemen, on motion the secretary was instructed to request Allegheny Co. Section to issue a call to the membership of their county to nominate fourteen candiates for the S. E. C.

On motion a warrant for $59.64 was drawn to cover the expenditures of the month of October, 1907.

Owing to a statement of funds, advanced to the agitation committee by the state treasurer having been mislaid, the financial report will be published in the minutes of the next meeting.

D. T. Lentz, Secretary.

TO MEMBERS AND SYMPATHIZERS OF THE S. L. P., GREETING:

Your generous response to our appeal for your assistance in making a success of our picnic last summer enabled us to raise a respectable fund with which we were thus in a position to materially assist our party press. Our press, as you well know, is our most powerful means of education and our ability to do something to forward it was a circumstance to be keenly appreciated. This experience makes us confident of your continued support and cooperation in our latest plan for raising a fund, this time to carry on a campaign of agitation and education Cook County.

We therefore invite you to our Grand Annual Prize Masquerade Ball to be held at Vorwaerts Turner Hall, 1168—117[illegible] W. 17th street, on New Year's eve, and urge you to not only be present, but to do all you can to induce your friends and acquaintances to purchase tickets and come where an enjoyable time is assured to all.

Now, comrades and friends, let us all work together with a will to make this affair a grand success, and Section Cook County will begin the new year so much nearer to the goal of the Emancipation of the working class from Wage Slavery.

Entertainment Committee.

MILWAUKEE, ATTENTION!

Members and friends of the S. L. P. who wish to spend a pleasant evening are invited to attend the Grand Sylvester Ball, arranged by the Hungarian Sick and Death Benefit Society and English and German branches of Section Milwaukee S. L. P. The affair will take place on TUESDAY, December 31, at Freie Gemeinde Hall, 262 4th street. Tickets 15 cents; at the door, 25 cents. A short address will precede the entertainment.

ST. LOUIS, ATTENTION!

Henry Jager, Organizer of the Socialist Labor Party, will speak at Lightstone Hall, 11th and Franklin aves., SUNDAY, Dec. 22, at 2:30 p. m. Subject: "The Difference between the S. P. and the S. L. P."

Readers of The People are urged to attend and bring along their friends. Admission free. Questions invited.

Organizer.

ST. PAUL ENTERTAINMENT.

Section St. Paul, Socialist Labor Party, will celebrate the 15th annual Xmas and New Year's Entertainment and Ball WEDNESDAY, January 1st, 1908, at Federation Hall, 309 Wabasha St. Everybody is welcome. Each will receive a present. Entertainment begins at 3 p. m.

Sec'y.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

All organizations and individuals who have obligations due The People or Labor News are hereby notified that the books will be closed on December 23rd, in order to make up report for the past six months and have it ready for the meeting of the N. E. C. We wish to present as clean a slate as possible and to that end request that all bills be paid up at once. A list of the unpaid bills will be handed to the N. E. C. Let all cooperate to make that list as small as possible.

The People,
New York Labor News.

GOVERNOR SPARKS.

(Continued on page 1.)

mining stocks to the insurrection which he hopes will arrive. Then, too, the Mine Owners' Association of the West think that the time has arrived to make an example of somebody. They figure that an insurrection in Nevada will result in the death of the most militant portion of the American working class.

HIT THE NAIL ON THE HEAD

THE PEOPLE DOES—WHY DON'T ITS READERS AND SUPPORTERS?

For the week ending Friday, December 13th, we received 142 subs for the Weekly People and 30 mail subs for the Daily People, a total of 172. In these stirring times we consider it remarkable that subs turned in should be so few. New York comrades and out of town comrades say that The People hit the nail squarely on the head in the Open Letter to Congress, and while we think that The People always does that, we are surprised that the comrades did not hit the iron while hot by rushing in a lot of Weekly People subs so that as many people as possible might read that letter. It has been suggested that the "letter" be put in leaflet, but would it not be much better to have the paper with the good things it contains going week after week to the thousands of readers that could be secured, and would be secured, if each comrade sent in but one sub a month—that would mean 500 a week.

Those who sent five or more subs were C. Pierson, Minneapolis, Minn., 26; J. White, New London, Conn., 8; J. H. T. Juergens, Canton, O., 8; W. J. Bryan, New York, 8; Aurelia Corker, Los Angeles, Cal., 5.

By States, the Weekly People subs came as follows: Ala., 1; Cal., 15; Conn., 11; Ill., 5; Ind., 4; Ky., 3; La., 1; Mass., 6; Minn., 31; Mich., 2; Mo., 2; N. J., 2; N. Y., 20; Ohio, 9; Okla, 1; Penn., 5; R. I., 1; Tex., 3; Wash., 9; Idaho, 1; Canada and foreign, 10.

Thirty mail subs for the Daily People is a poor record. That many should be the work of a day, especially at this time when things are moving. Workingmen, it is true, have less money now, but they have a keen desire to know why they have less and will rake up money for a sub more quickly than when they are flusher.

Prepaid cards were sold as follows: Tacoma, Wash., $10; Salt Lake, Utah, $10; Oakland, Cal., $12; Scandinavian Socialist Club, New York, $12.50; Conn. S. E. C. took $45 worth of cards in payment of loan.

Labor News orders were fair the past week: San Francisco, $25; Salt Lake, Utah, $23.70; Boston, $11; Goldfield, $10; Edinburgh, Scotland, $9.69; Cincinnati, $8.30; Detroit, $7.90; Hoquaim, Wash., $5.50; Vancouver, B. C., $5.20; Newport News, $5; Lexington, Mo., $3.50; Chicago, Indianapolis and Pittsfield, Mass., $3 each; Colo. Springs, $2.30; Brooklyn, $2.45; Bridgeport, $2.25; San Jose, Cal., $2.35. In addition there were many smaller orders.

The first edition of "Antipatriotism," 3,000, is sold out; a new edition of 5,000 will soon be ready. This pamphlet has sold itself. The new edition goes to press the coming week. The latest pamphlet, "The Foundation of the Labor Movement," speech by Wendell Phillips, is one which should be rushed out. As it is but 16 pages we are able to sell it for $3.50 per 100 copies, but that price will not prevail on smaller quantities.

Another of the Sue stories is in type. With the aid of Comrade Ball we shall put them out as fast as our facilities and other work will permit. If the comrades will push out the literature in a lively manner we will get it out for them.

CHILDREN'S HOUR

Dear little Comrades:—

Last Thanksgiving on my way to Grand Central Palace my thoughts were very pleasant indeed. I was looking forward to the meeting of our faithful comrades, old and young.

Suddenly my attention was called to a very well dressed young woman. She wore beautiful clothes and I was in doubt whether her face matched those garments. She turned to speak to her companion, a coarse, bully-looking sort of a man. This gave me a profile of her face, the best view for study.

"Well," thought I, "fine feathers make fine birds." In my mind, I bared her head of the beautiful hat. Her hair were thin and her forehead anything but pleasant. Her ears were not of the shell kind, but they had beautiful diamonds in them.

Then my thoughts turned to those whose skill of hands and brains helped to make the plain looking girl so attractive. And the poet says, "A thing of beauty is a joy forever."

There was that hat. I wondered how many little fingers bled with needle pricks in the making of it. How many little heads were dizzy and eyes were strained in making such hats before the holiday? You know, there are hundreds of little school girls in the millinery trade.

I saw in the crimped hair the cramps of the maid's fingers—for her mistress must be just so when she goes out.

I looked at the beautifully made coat and thought of the hours spent by the designer in the dingy shop, planning 'my lady's coat," and then on, on, on, to the poor finishers, basters, etc.

I weighed my lady beautiful on one scale and on the other the human skill, strength and blood it took to make her what she seemed to be and—the Bridge gong sounded.

"Did you see that?" quickly came from my companion.

"What, the way that brute brushed his lady's coat off in passing that poor working man?"

"Yes." Feared she might besmear herself of honesty! This of course, is the land of equality; no classes nor castes!"

The poor wage slave dragged on his weary bones. Whether he felt the shame of this ignorant brute's act or not, I do not know, but on that platform were two fellow workers of his whose hearts throbbed with the indignities thrown upon us of the working class, whether we be of American, Japanese or German parentage.

I there thought of the thousands of young Socialists who will soon learn where true Freedom grows, and my pain somewhat dwindled away. I saw all over this land ten years from now the public schools filled with children who knew our principles sublime, and taught by teachers who also knew what the freedom is.

And so, my dears, my Thanksgiving day might have been very much saddened hadn't your bright faces and voices gladdened the heart of

Your loving,
AUNT ANNETTA.

FINE RESULTS.

To the Children's Hour:—

No doubt you have despaired of ever hearing the results of your efforts in helping to swell the funds of the Daily People Fund. I shall not keep you in suspense any longer.

The financial results were $26.79.

There you have the financial report. But as to the work itself—well, it was a pleasure to look at the little busy bees.

A. Kowarsky.

GOLDFIELD STRIKE.

(Continued on page 1.)

partment would sanction the sending of troops.

Colonel Reynolds, in charge of the troops, acts as if fully convinced that the War Department has been misled, and it is believed by many he will have the troops recalled, if the mine owners will allow it.

The following statement of Senator George S. Nixon, after a long conference with Roosevelt, plainly shows why the operators object to the Western Federation and to the I. W. W. Nixon is a mine owner and partner of George Wingfield, the mine owner and gambling king:

"The Mine Owners' Association of Goldfield is not fighting legitimate unionism. We are fighting outlawry and anarchy. The employes will not keep their agreements and do the work they are paid to do. We want to work our mines, and if we cannot do it without constant trouble we will shut down for two years or more.

"Our plan is, first, to resume at the Tonopah wage scale of $4 a day. I know that this policy will bring general criticism upon the mine owners, but we are prepared for that. The cost of living is lower at Goldfield than at Tonopah, yet the miners at Tonopah work on without complaint, and there are no strikes there.

"We shall insist that the employes of our mines cease their connection with the Western Federation at Denver. We have no objection to a Nevada Union, such as has existed at Virginia City for the past twenty-five years. They don't have labor trouble at Butte and Comstock and we intend to stop them in southern Nevada.

Spokane, Wash., December 7.—At a regular meeting of Local 222 of the Industrial Workers of the World here, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

"Whereas, Theodore Roosevelt, being commander-in-chief of the army and navy of the United States, acting together with Governor Sparks of Nevada, has sent a large military detachment to Goldfield, Nevada, to drive out the Western Federation of Miners and fill the camp with scabs by means of outrage and brutality; and

"Whereas, We view with horror and execration the conduct of this bloodthirsty tool of the capitalist class; therefore be it

"Resolved: That we call upon all members of the working class to protest against this latest crime, and hold the said Theodore Roosevelt up to the execration and contempt of all people who are forced to work for a living; and be it further

"Resolved: That we protest against the President of the United States helping the Mine Owners' Association to crush organized labor in Nevada and to force laborers to take worthless scrip for pay; and be it further

"Resolved: That we send a copy of those resolutions to the Central Labor Union, Spokane, the Miners' Magazine, the Industrial Union Bulletin, the Labor World, the Weekly People, the Nevada Workman and other labor papers.

"M. W. Bennett, B. Holmes, James Wilson, Committee."

STOP WORKINGMEN.

Notice—There is absolutely no work of any kind in the Boundary District of British Columbia. Keep away from Grand Forks, Phoenix and Greenwood, B. C.

Ex-Committee,
Grand Forks Union No. 80, W. F. M.

SECTION CALENDAR.

Under this head will shall publish standing advertisements of Section headquarters, or other permanent announcements. The charge will be five dollars a year for five lines.

Section San Francisco, Cal., S. L. P. Headquarters, Hungarian Socialist Federation, Lettonian Socialist Labor Federation, 883 McAllister street.

Los Angeles, Cal., Headquarters and public reading rooms at 409 East Seventh street. Public educational meetings Sunday evenings. People readers are invited to our rooms and meetings.

Section Cleveland, Ohio, S. L. P., meets every alternate Sunday at 356 Ontario street (Ger. Am. Bank Bldg.) top floor, at 3 P. M.

Headquarters Section Cincinnati, O., S. L. P., at I. W. W. Hall, 12th and Jackson streets. General Committee meets every second and fourth Thursday. German, Jewish and Hungarian educational meetings every Wednesday and Sunday. Open every night.

Section Spokane, Wash., S. L. P. free reading room 110 Bernard st. Visiting comrades, I. W. W. members and all others invited. Business meetings every Sunday morning at 11 a. m.

Section Allentown, Pa., S. L. P., meets every first Saturday in the month at 8 p. m. Headquarters 815 Hamilton street.

Section Providence, R. I., 81 Dyer st., room 8. Every Tuesday night at 8 p. m. second and fourth regular business, others devoted to lectures. Science class Wednesday nights.

New Jersey State Executive Committee, S. L. P.—J. C. Butterworth, Secretary, 110 Albion ave., Paterson; A. Lessig, Financial Secretary, 266 Governor street, Paterson, N. J.

Chicago, Illinois.—The 14th Ward Branch, Socialist Labor Party, meets every 1st and 3rd Sunday, 2 p. m. sharp, at Friedmann's Hall, S. E. corner Grand and Western avenues. Workingmen and women are cordially invited.

Section Seattle, S. L. P., headquarters, free reading room and lecture hall, No. 2000 Second avenue. P. O. address, Box 1040.

Section Salt Lake, Utah, meets every Wednesday, 8 p. m., Rooms 4 and 5, Galena Block, 69 East 2nd So st. Free Reading Room. Weekly People readers invited.

All communications intended for the Minnesota S. E. C. should be addressed to Otto Olson, 310 7th ave., So. Minneapolis, Minn.

Grand Entertainment and Ball

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Eintracht Hall, 237 Twelfth Street, San Francisco, Cal.
Between Howard and Folsom Streets
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